

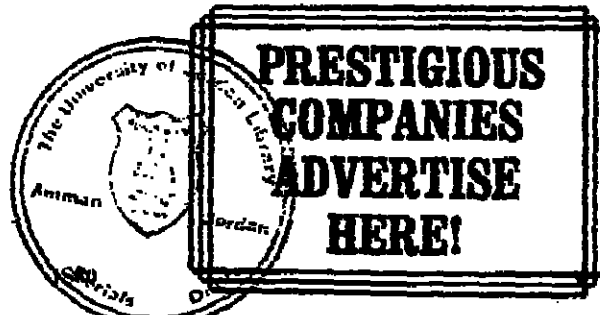
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Friday, December 23, 1983

THE JERUSALEM POST

Vol. LI, No. 15503



Levy push expected Ben-Meir quits Foreign Ministry

By DAVID LANDAU
Diplomatic Correspondent

Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Meir unexpectedly resigned today, setting the stage for a new showdown between Prime Minister David Levy, who wants to become foreign minister, and Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who still retains the job.

Ben-Meir's resignation, despite the resignation of Ben-Meir, who cited personal reasons for his decision and said he wants to play a more active role in his National Religious Party, Shamir is considered to be in any hurry to appoint Levy, or anyone else, to the Foreign Ministry.

Political insiders predicted last night that Levy's camp will seize Ben-Meir's surprise departure as a reason for Shamir to name to the Foreign Ministry as possible.

Ben-Meir said these insiders, Shamir attempt to resist and to maintain the present situation, in which Shamir continues to hold his job as foreign minister.

Ben-Meir's resignation is not a surprise, these insiders said. Levy's candidacy or, indeed, the candidacies of other "outsiders" such as Energy Minister Akiba Rubinfeld (Likud-Liberal), are under pressure, some as predicted, Shamir might appoint his young friend, confidant Yehuda Ben-Meir, as deputy foreign minister in place of Ben-Meir — others felt this would add to a sense of grievance.

Ben-Meir, in his resignation letter, cited as his reasons for leaving "the very bad state of the

National Religious Party" and also a feeling "that I have exhausted my capacity to make a contribution in the Foreign Ministry and there is no vital purpose served in my continuing in office."

Ben-Meir met with the premier for more than an hour yesterday afternoon — their second meeting in three days on the matter of the resignation.

Shamir assured Ben-Meir that he was prepared to broaden his authority within the ministry if that was the problem. But the deputy minister insisted that his decision to quit was linked more to his party concerns than to dissatisfaction over his work at the ministry. He said that as a regular Knesset Member he would be able to devote much more time to the NRP — where his Young Guard faction has been rudderless recently following Education and Culture Minister Ze'evulun Hammer's heart attack and former NRP secretary Danny Verma's departure overseas on a long-term mission.

In his letter to Shamir, Ben-Meir thanked the premier for "your full trust, cooperation and warm relations towards me."

It is understood, nevertheless, that there was an element of work-related frustration in Ben-Meir's decision to leave. After two years as deputy minister he apparently found that with Shamir as premier he (Ben-Meir) was having less input in policymaking than before.

While Shamir was foreign minister under Menachem Begin, he and Ben-Meir worked quite closely. But since Shamir's transfer to the Prime Minister's Office, relations (Continued on Page 13)



PLO chief Yasser Arafat meets yesterday with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. (UPI telephoto)

U.S. sees new hope for Reagan peace plan

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The U.S. yesterday welcomed the meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and PLO chief Yasser Arafat. American officials expressed hope that this first high-level Egyptian-PLO contact in more than six years will encourage Jordan's King Hussein to support President Ronald Reagan's September 1, 1982 peace initiative.

At the same time, the White House and the State Department denied that the U.S. had changed its own attitude toward the PLO, noting that Washington will not deal directly with Arafat and his organization until they first accept Israel's right to exist and UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The Arafat-Mubarak meeting did not come as a total surprise to Washington. In fact, it had been expected following Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali's meetings earlier this week with Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz. At that time, both sides agreed it would be useful to once again sound out Arafat.

Ali had emerged from the session with Reagan to tell reporters that Arafat was still "the most popular Palestinian leader."

State Department spokesman John Hughes recognized that the

warm U.S. response to the Arafat-Mubarak meeting followed Israel's angry reaction. Hughes noted that Washington and Jerusalem, despite their recently enhanced strategic and political cooperation, have never agreed on everything — nor will they in the future.

Acting on instructions from Jerusalem, Israel's ambassador in Washington, Meir Rosenne, met later yesterday with Under-Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger to register Israel's protest against the reception Cairo accorded Arafat. Israeli officials here were clearly disappointed by the opposite U.S. response.

The Americans are by no means certain that Arafat, in the aftermath of his expulsion by Syrian-backed PLO rebels from Tripoli, will give a green light to Hussein to represent Palestinians at peace talks with Israel. Last April, Arafat refused to do so. But U.S. officials, as opposed to their Israeli counterparts, sense some slight opening they clearly hope to try to exploit, even if these efforts irritate Jerusalem and strain the U.S.-Israeli relationship.

Other well-informed U.S. officials said an eventual decision by Hussein to get involved in peace talks would result in strengthened U.S. efforts to secure an Israeli freeze on Jewish settlement activity in Judea and Samaria.

Israel says Cairo meet hurts peace

By DAVID LANDAU
Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel reacted bitterly to the meeting in Cairo yesterday between Palestinian Liberation Organization chairman Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir terming it "a severe blow to the peace process."

Speaking at a dinner in honor of visiting Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, Shamir called for direct negotiations with Jordan or any other Arab state, but ruled out the possibility of talks with the PLO, "direct or indirect."

The PLO's very existence "contradicts peace," and sooner or later, the organization will disappear from the political arena, the premier stated.

Other Israeli officials had no firm assessment of whether the Cairo meeting would be the harbinger of intensive new diplomatic activity in the region, involving the moderate Arab states and Arafat's section of the PLO, and centering on the long-dormant "Reagan Plan."

But beneath the official anger here there was anxiety. U.S. officials had been quoted in Washington earlier in the week as hoping that Arafat's evacuation from Tripoli would result in the revival of the "Reagan Plan." And Israeli policymakers know that such a revival could quickly put Washington and Jerusalem on a collision course.

Israel's first sardonic comment on the Arafat-Mubarak meeting came from Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. During a working session with visiting Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, Shamir observed that Arafat and his men had "danced in the streets of Beirut," upon receiving the news of President Sadat's assassination. How "remarkable and regrettable" it was, therefore, Shamir said, that Sadat's successor should give Arafat the red-carpet treatment in Cairo.

Later, the Foreign Ministry issued a formal statement asserting that Cairo's welcome for "the head of the murderous PLO is a severe blow to the peace process in the Middle East."

"The existence and activities of the PLO contradict peace and jeopardize every attempt and possibility to further it."

"The ultimate disappearance of (Continued on Page 13)

PLO leadership raps Arafat for seeing Mubarak

By DAVID BERNSTEIN
Post Middle East Affairs Reporter
and agencies

PLO chief Yasser Arafat met for almost two hours in Cairo yesterday with President Hosni Mubarak — the first time he has set foot in the Egyptian capital since the late President Anwar Sadat announced his intention to visit Jerusalem more than six years ago. Arafat's next destination is expected to be Saudi Arabia, where he will meet with King Fahd.

Yesterday's meeting was promptly denounced by Arafat's PLO colleagues, who called it an individual action running counter to the PLO's principles.

A statement issued in the name of the central committee of Fatah, which is headed by Arafat and is the largest of the eight PLO groups, said Arafat's move "came as an individual action and without the (committee's) knowledge or advice."

Arafat's meeting with the only Arab leader formally at peace with Israel, coming within 48 hours of Arafat's departure from Tripoli, was a clear gesture of defiance to the Syrian-backed PLO rebels who had driven him out of Lebanon after challenging his "soft" line on Israel.

It was also plainly a calculated risk on Arafat's part, and the ire of key PLO leaders whose qualified support for his continued leadership throughout the six-month-long rebellion did much to thwart Syria's

efforts to oust him could have been expected.

Both Salah Khalaf (Abu Nidal), Arafat's deputy in his mainstream Fatah group, and Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, strongly denounced the meeting in two separate statements yesterday. They called it an "irresponsible" action that ran counter to decisions taken by the PLO's central and executive committees.

"Such a step represents a continuation of the unilateral course that led our revolution and movement to catastrophe and threatens its dismemberment and destruction," the DFPLP statement said.

George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who remained neutral throughout the rebellion against Arafat, said in a statement that Arafat's move was a "dangerous deviation and a clearcut treason," and demanded his ouster as PLO chairman.

"It is no longer possible to hesitate in ousting Yasser Arafat from his functions immediately (since he) has not respected the ambitions of our people," Habash said in the statement.

For Egypt, too, the visit was a chance of sorts. Cairo had to weigh the risk of Israel's inevitable anger against the obvious boost the meeting with Arafat will have given Egypt's quest to forge a significant political role for itself in the Arab world.

The meeting will obviously have (Continued on Page 13)



Yehuda Ben-Meir, center, in a close encounter with Deputy Prime Minister David Levy, now a contender for the post of foreign minister, at the Knesset last year. Yitzhak Shamir, then only foreign minister, is left. (David Rubinger)

Christmas rites tomorrow in Jlem

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The traditional Christmas Eve procession of the Latin Patriarch from Jerusalem to Bethlehem will begin at noon tomorrow. At 4 p.m. there is to be a Protestant service at Beit Sahur, near Bethlehem. In the evening, five choirs from abroad will present a concert beginning at 8:30 in Manger Square. The midnight mass in St.

Catherine's Church adjoining the Church of the Nativity will be shown on a giant TV screen in the square.

Cars without special permits will not be permitted into Bethlehem on Saturday. Those visiting the town should bring their identity card or passport. Special shuttle taxis and buses will run from near the Jaffa Gate starting tomorrow morning.

Bank of Israel upsets plans for higher charges

By AVI TEMKIN
Post Economic Reporter

The Bank of Israel decided yesterday not to approve most of the increased commission fees the commercial banks planned to charge next month. This decision was called an "interim" one. A final decision will be made after a special committee studying the banks' requests completes its deliberations.

The central bank also decided not to approve higher commissions on foreign-currency transactions and on allocation of foreign-currency credits.

Plans to collect commissions on operations involving foreign-currency linked accounts (Patam) and impose charges on certificates of deposit (Tapas) were also rejected.

The bank approved a IS50 fee for payment of bills such as telephone, water, and radio/TV licences, if the clients' bank has not been instructed to make payment automatically. The banks requested a IS100 fee.

The central bank also approved a 20 per cent increase in fees for management of current accounts. This increase will take effect on January 15, and not January 1 as planned by the banks.

EWSEBEAT/Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

'Postal Bank is unsung hope of big banks' victims

EVERY GOVERNMENT has always lectured to tell the public about advantages of having a checking account and paying bills at the Postal Bank. This failure to advertise has added billions of shekels to the state's budget that would otherwise have

gone to the government to the coffers of the commercial banks. The average householder is already paying hundreds or even thousands of shekels monthly in bank charges for services that the Postal Bank provides absolutely free, and he is threatened with having to pay double for them in future.

Every night on Israel TV, government ministries sponsor "public service" ads to promote the sales of avocados and clementines, the saving of water, and gambling in the national lottery. But the Communications Ministry, which has treated the government bank like a stepchild from the beginning, has never, in the 30 years since it was founded, launched a TV or press campaign on its behalf.

Though equipped with modern

optical scanning equipment lacking even in the commercial banks, the Postal Bank's advantages over these others are virtually unknown to the public. The Communications Ministry hasn't even bothered to put up notices in the 650 post office branches (and an equal number of mobile post offices) that offer Postal Bank services, giving information about its free services and the benefits to the state if bills are paid through them.

At the same time, the Broadcasting Authority allows the Banks Association, the lobbying coordinator of the commercial banks, to place public service ads on television urging the public to pay electricity, water and telephone bills by standing orders at commercial banks. But even though such

bank transfers are promoted by the commercial banks as being free, each one is charged to the customer as half a regular transaction (costing IS4.8 today and IS10, starting January 1, if the Bank of Israel fails to stop the increases). And there is no guarantee that the banks won't one day decide, in the face of financial pressures in the recession, to institute fees for standing orders as well.

Only in the last couple of weeks, as the commercial banks decided unilaterally to increase their bank fees by up to 100 per cent, has the Communications Ministry begun to plan a publicity campaign — in the press, on the radio and on TV — promoting the Postal Bank. But Zecharia Mizrotsky, the ministry spokesman, maintains that it will be "informative but low key, positive about the Postal Bank and not making comparisons with anyone else." It is still only in the discussion stage, and no money has yet been budgeted.

The director of the Postal Bank, Uzi Ravich, concedes that for the last year or so, his operation has been able to take on "tens of thousands" more checking-account customers. Currently, there are only 33,000 of these — 10,000 of them civil servants. Asked why the Postal Bank has not run a campaign

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 2)

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	MIN.	MAX.	C F C F
AMSTERDAM	4	9	40 48
BRUSSELS	5	11	41 52
BUENOS AIRES	18	25	64 77
CHICAGO	9	15	48 59
COPENHAGEN	4	9	40 48
FRANKFURT	3	7	37 45
GENEVA	1	6	34 43
HELSINKI	1	4	34 39
HONG KONG	17	23	63 73
JOHANNESBURG	19	28	66 82
LISBON	7	18	45 64
LONDON	7	12	45 54
MADRID	6	13	43 55
MONTREAL	-25	-13	-13 9
NEW YORK	-10	14	14 57
OSLO	-3	2	25 36
PARIS	7	12	45 54
RIO DE JANEIRO	19	27	66 81
SAO PAULO	18	26	64 79
STOCKHOLM	0	3	32 37
TOKYO	5	9	41 48
TORONTO	-1	4	30 39
VIENNA	5	12	41 54
ZURICH	-1	3	30 38

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partially cloudy.

	Yesterday's	Today's
Jerusalem	14	14
Golan	24	14
Nahariya	45	19
Safed	33	12
Haifa Port	33	19
Tiberias	32	19
Nazareth	31	16
Afula	89	19
Shimon	38	15
Tel Aviv	57	18
B-G Airport	70	19
Jericho	46	21
Gaza	65	18
Beer Sheva	64	18
Elitzur	47	22

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy was awarded the "Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself Prize" by the Am Yafeh, Am Ehad (Pleasant Nation, One Nation) organization in a ceremony last night at Asia House, in Tel Aviv.

American Mizrahi Women this week presented a Youth Aliya Jubilee Medalion to Mrs. Jenny Fink at a festive board of trustees meeting, for her many years as Youth Aliya chairwoman of the organization.

In Memoriam

A memorial service for Hillel (Herbert) Sher will be held at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 25, at his gravesite at the Har Hamenuhot cemetery. We shall meet at the cemetery gate at 10:30 a.m.

Treasury tax chief blasts senior officials

Unprecedented accusations against senior Finance Ministry officials were made yesterday by the head of the State Revenues Administration, Moshe Bar-Tov, the most senior official in the ministry's tax department.

Bar-Tov said in a radio interview that the lower officials in his department are doing "a good job," but the senior authorities are "inefficient and are causing damage to the public and the economy. Things were done in the tax department with insufficient planning. As a result income tax rose and regulations that are not viable were approved," he asserted.

Bar-Tov took over the administration a year ago, and his relations with the senior staff under his control have been strained.

The ministry spokesman last night declined to comment on Bar-Tov's declarations.

Computer company boss Dov Galinka, at 45

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Dov Galinka, managing-director of Medan Computers, died of a heart attack on Wednesday in Italy, where he was on a business trip. The coffin will be flown back to Israel at the beginning of next week.

Galinka, 45, who was born in Israel, was known as leader in the field of data processing. After serving in governmental and public positions, he was appointed head of Medan Computers two years ago.

He leaves a wife and three children.

HOME NEWS

Shi'ite extremists set 10-day ultimatum

BEIRUT (AP). — The fundamentalist Shi'ite organization that has claimed responsibility for the latest spate of truck-bombing attacks in Lebanon and Kuwait, yesterday served a 10-day ultimatum on U.S. and French peace-keeping troops to leave Lebanon.

"This is the last warning for the American and French forces," an anonymous caller told Agence France Presse in Beirut, claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad group. "We shall give them 10 days to leave Lebanon. Otherwise we shall make the earth shake underneath their feet."

The caller said his group, widely believed to be made up of Shi'ite Muslim extremists loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, was responsible for Wednesday's truck-bombing at a French regimental headquarters in Beirut.

The organization had claimed responsibility for the almost simultaneous suicide truck-bombings that killed 241 U.S. Marines and 58 French

paratroopers in the Lebanese capital last October 23.

The group also claimed last April's car-bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, the truck-bomb attack on an Israeli army post in Tyre port in November and the truck-bombing of the U.S. and French embassies in Kuwait this month.

The new ultimatum apparently alarmed the government. Prime Minister Shafik Wazzan attended a security conference at President Amin Jemayel's palace at midday and said afterward, "We discussed the measures that are to be taken to cope with the new developments."

U.S. F-14 jets scrambled off the aircraft carrier Independence on mid-morning reconnaissance flights over the Lebanese capital and the hills overlooking the U.S. Marine base at Beirut International Airport.

The International Red Cross yesterday announced the completion of a seven-day evacuation of Christian refugees from the Druze-besieged town of Deir el-Kamar in the Shouf mountains.

Griffel: 'I won't resign'

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Acting Mayor Yigal Griffel said yesterday he will not resign as board chairman of the municipal Ganey Yehoshua corporation. Police are investigating his activities in the company.

Griffel is accused by the corporation's director-general Moshe Ekron of promoting one of his relatives in the corporation; of taking plants from the park for his daughter's wedding and of handling a restaurant project in the park without Ekron's knowledge.

"We don't believe Griffel did anything improper," a member of Griffel's bureau said yesterday.

Municipal Comptroller Shmuel Rubinek began an investigation of Ganey Yehoshua about two months ago, following complaints by Griffel and Ganey Yehoshua Director Moshe Ekron against each other.

Griffel refused to comment on the affair. "I have my version about the goings on in the corporation and will tell it to the police when I'm asked to," he said.

Griffel reportedly met Lahat yesterday and the conversation between them erupted into angry shouts, city hall sources said. But Griffel denied speaking to Lahat about the matter yesterday and said Lahat would not intervene now that the police were investigating it.

Hofi may leave Electric Corp. job

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — General Manager of the Israel Electric Corporation Yitzhak Hofi yesterday told the board of directors he might resign. Taken by surprise, the board urged him to reconsider, but Hofi said he felt in duty bound to tell them what he was planning. He also refused to withdraw his announcement.

The meeting was called at Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i's request, in order to dismiss Board chairman David Hagoel and replace him with Amos Proshan, an accountant. But meanwhile, Moda'i and Hagoel had agreed that Hagoel continue in his post and resign in April.

It is learned that Hofi complained about the atmosphere created in the corporation since Hagoel had been forced to the verge of resignation by Moda'i because he had refused to carry out the minister's wishes. Hagoel considered that these wishes

would have made it difficult to assure peaceful working relations in the company.

Hofi reportedly told the directors that even if Hagoel had agreed to carry out the minister's orders, he (Hofi) would have opposed them. Hofi said he did not wish to be put into such an untenable position. He said he was guided solely by the good of the corporation, as was Hagoel.

Hagoel told the meeting that he, too, had not known of Hofi's plans. The acting secretary of the corporation's works committee, Asher Cohen, last night expressed deep concern at the effort to make major changes in the company's top management at a time when the company was about to start construction of a big power station in the south and to complete the Hadera power station.

More home news on pages 3 and 13



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti hold talks yesterday. (Rahamim Israeli)

Israel fears grave damage to exports, Italian FM told

Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir used Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti's brief visit here to express Israel's "alarm" about the grave damage to this country's agricultural exports to the European Economic Community that could be caused by the imminent entry of Spain and Portugal into the EEC, a well-placed Israeli source said.

Shamir said this damage could be prevented only if the EEC concludes a prior agreement to protect Israel and other Mediterranean states likely to be affected.

Andreotti said Italian agriculture, too, would face problems with Spain's membership, but Italy supported Spain's application, the source said.

The Italian foreign minister spent all of yesterday in discussions with government and opposition leaders in Jerusalem.

He promised to advocate Israel's case in top EEC policy-making forums, and also took note of Shamir's observation that Spain is the only country in Western Europe that does not have formal relations with Israel, an anomaly that ought to be corrected if Spain is to join the EEC.

The source said Andreotti's talks here also helped him "to thoroughly clarify to himself what Italian troops are doing in Lebanon, why they ought to stay there, and how

the situation there can improve."

The most important and most fruitful conversation had been a two-and-a-half-hour private talk between Andreotti and Shamir over dinner Wednesday night, soon after the Italian foreign minister's arrival, the source said.

The two men covered the entire Middle East situation in depth, and while they did not necessarily agree on all points, at least they could now see the issues through each other's eyes, the source added.

The Italian government is facing strong public pressure at home over the continued presence of some 2,400 Italian troops with the Multinational Peace-keeping Force in Beirut. At a working session with Shamir yesterday morning, Andreotti repeatedly stated Rome's determination to maintain a presence in Beirut. But he made it clear that the complement would be cut to the original, lower figure agreed with the Lebanese government. Italy also has contingents serving with UNIFIL in Southern Lebanon, the MFO in Sinai, and UNDOF on the Golan.

President Chaim Herzog met with Andreotti for 45 minutes at Beit Hanassi yesterday.

Among the subjects raised were Lebanon and the Beirut peace-keeping force, the status and current condition of the PLO, the chances of the peace process with Egypt and Italian-Israeli relations.

Defence employees ordered back to work

Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Labour Court Judge Steve Adler yesterday ordered Defence Ministry workers to resume normal work ending a show-down strike over their demand for higher pay.

The injunction was issued at a special session yesterday afternoon after workers blocked the doors to

ministry offices and stopped payments to suppliers. The ministry said in its brief to the court that failure to pay suppliers \$4 billion a week would have disrupted the steady supply of goods and services to the army. Plants employing hundreds of workers might have collapsed because of liquidity problems, it added.

Khan Theatre director submits resignation

Ada Ben-Nahum, director of Jerusalem's Khan Theatre, yesterday submitted her resignation to board chairman Harry Sapir.

Ben-Nahum told *The Jerusalem Post* that budget cuts by the

Court: IDF may recall jailed Lebanon resisters

The High Court of Justice yesterday turned down an application by a reserve soldier, backed by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI), for an order nisi calling on Defence Minister Moshe Arens to show cause why he should not cancel the man's mobilization order.

Ya'acov Shein, a member of the Yesh Gvul movement of reservists opposed to the war in Lebanon, was challenging an Israel Defence Forces directive issued last February that soldiers jailed for refusing to serve in Lebanon be immediately called up again upon their release. He maintained that such a policy is illegal in that it aims to force him to serve in Lebanon and "to break his spirit."

The ACRI added a more legal argument, contending that the IDF's "issuance of a mobilization order as punishment above and beyond the prison term already to which Shein was already sentenced constituted illegal use of its authority for an unintended purpose."

Shein was first sentenced last October to a 35-day prison term for refusing to go to Lebanon, and then immediately jailed again for 28 more days when he refused a second order. A third call-up was to take effect yesterday, two days after his latest release.

Responding to the application, the state attorney's office charged that the "new phenomenon of organized and systematic refusal by soldiers to obey legal call-up orders, acts committed for reasons of political protest, has nothing in common with the Israel Defence

Forces and seriously undermining foundations." The IDF, it representative Renato Jarech cannot allow these people to me serve their annual reserve duty, but must fight the phenomenon because it lowers morale and ceases the workload for old soldiers.

Therefore, he explained, it decided that prison terms of conscientious objectors would not be counted as time served in the IDF. The directive, he said, is not to punish, but to keep the resista movement from achieving goals.

Supreme Court Deputy Pres Miriam Ben-Porat and Just Menahem Elon and Gavriel I said they will publish their reac judgement at a later date. Meanwhile, they ordered Shein the ACRI to pay the state \$520 costs.

The need to maintain morale insure an equitable distributio the burden are legitimate consid tions, the justices held. B Porat, however, was critical of IDF's failure to permit Shein others like him time between ups to attend to personal and fa business. "It seems," she said, "there is an extreme attitude ber 'fight to the finish' and an ate to 'teach him a lesson, immed ly, once and for all'."

Replying to this point, Jarech that the IDF is generally willin grant delays in service for pers reasons, if requested, but not reasons of principle, when it co to those who refuse orders break the law. (Itim)

Old City yeshiva gets another reprieve

The illegal extra storey of Birkat Avraham yeshiva in the Old City will probably still be standing when the Sabbath begins this afternoon, following yet another hearing in Jerusalem District Court today on the city demolition order against it.

Magistrates Court Judge Dalia Koval yesterday turned down a request by lawyers for the yeshiva to cancel the demolition order, issued by Mayor Teddy Kollek earlier in the week. She even declined to stay the order until the yeshiva had a chance to appeal, saying she had no authority to do so.

But shortly afterwards, with permission from Magistrates Court President Judge Aharon Simha, the lawyers took the case, personally across town to the district court, where Judge Ezra Hedaya agreed to accept an immediate appeal. He scheduled a hearing for today, and meanwhile ordered a temporary

delay to the demolition. Even if appeal is unsuccessful, there probably not be enough time le carry out the order.

Birkat Avraham patron Avra Dweik was in the courthouse ye day, brandishing a letter, signe Israel's and Jerusalem's chief bis, declaring that it is forbidde demolish a synagogue under circumstances. He also display letter from Rabbi Gavriel G sman of the yeshiva repudiati agreement signed by other y representatives last Mon promising not to oppose the de tion. But the latest letter added if the court rules against them, yeshiva students will not resist.

The Jerusalem municipality said that it wants to force B Avraham out of its Mosle Quarter site because of repe clashes with residents reported stigated by the students. (Itim)

\$9900m. needed for separate traffic police

Setting up a separate traffic police unit that would take over traffic control from the manpower-starved police force depends on finding up to \$9900 million, Transport Minister Haim Corfu said yesterday.

Speaking at the weekly mee of the ministerial committee road safety, which he heads, C said he will soon meet with Inte Minister Yosef Burg and Fine Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad to plore ways of getting the mone

In very deep sorrow, we announce the untimely passing of our dear

DANIEL RUBIN ז"ל
son of Reb Shalom Rubin ז"ל in his 43rd year.

The funeral took place on December 21, 1983 at the Old Cemetery, Hof Hacarmel, Haifa.

Mourners: Mother, Haya Rubin
Wife, Heddi Rubin
Son, Binyamin Rubin
Brother, Amihai Rubin, and family
Sister, Edna Rubin
The Niklah Family
The Cohen Family (Switzerland)

Shiva at the house of the deceased, 52 Pinkas St., Tel Aviv.

A memorial service on the first anniversary of the death of our beloved

JOSEPH ARKIN ז"ל
will take place on Sunday, December 25, 1983, at 3:30 p.m. at the Mazkeret Batya cemetery.

The Family

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JOSEPH ARKIN ז"ל
on the first anniversary of his death.
"... like a tree planted by the rivers of water..." (Psalms 1:3)

The Association of the Friends of the Hospitals of Tel Aviv-Jaffa extend their condolences to

Mrs. Valou Levi and Family
on the untimely death of

Dr. JO LEVY

The Board, Directors and Curators of The Israel Museum, Jerusalem mourn the passing of their friend

Dr. JO (JOSEPH) LEVY ז"ל
and express sympathy to the family.

With great sorrow, we announced the death of our dear mother, mother-in-law, sister and grandmother

FREDA JAFFE ז"ל
released from suffering after a long illness.

The funeral will take place today, Friday, December 23, 1983, leaving at 12 noon from the cemetery at Pinsker St. Herzliya.

Mourning by her daughter, Yael Chen, and Family

Kilil Industries Ltd.
and the
Board of Directors

mourn the untimely passing of one of our directors, and a good friend of Israel

ROBERT RUSSELL ז"ל

The city of Afula mourns the untimely death of

ROBERT RUSSELL ז"ל
A friend of the city who contributed greatly to its development

Ovadia Eli
Mayor of Afula

The Jewish Agency for Israel Israel Education Fund mourns the untimely passing of

ROBERT RUSSELL
President of the Israel Education Fund a dedicated leader who devoted his efforts to Israel and the establishment of education and cultural facilities throughout the country

Eliezer Shavit
Director General, Israel

Venture Israel mourns the passing of

ROBERT RUSSELL
Executive Vice President of Venture Israel and a devoted and true friend of Israel.

To Riva
Mickey, Jackie, Offi and Shimon

We wish you long life on the passing of our beloved

Uncle ABE NURICK ז"ל
Sadly missed by:

Pearl Chazan (Cape Town)
Julian Chazan
Shimon and Sharon Yakira (Los Angeles)
Tal and Rena

Raymond and Marilyn Chazan
Tomer, Aloni and
Oren-Shimon Avraham Chazan

Temby, Sheila and Michael Chazan

'Pravda': U.S. at war in Lebanon

MOSCOW (AP). — The Soviet Communist Party daily *Pravda* yesterday accused the U.S. of waging an "undeclared war" in Lebanon and reiterated Moscow's call for an international conference on the Middle East.

The accusation against Washington came in an article examining UN resolutions on the Middle East backing a long-standing Soviet call for an international summit.

The late president Leonid Brezhnev first advocated such an international forum in February

1981, expanding his proposals in October that year and in September 1982. Western analysts saw the suggestion as a Soviet move to get involved in affairs in the Middle East when Soviet influence there had waned.

Pravda also reiterated the Soviet stand that only Israel's "full and unconditional withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967" and an independent Palestine under the leadership of the PLO could bring lasting Middle East peace.

The restatement of Soviet ideas

was accompanied by an attack on U.S. policy in the region.

"The U.S. administration, encouraging Tel Aviv's expansionist course, bears responsibility for the sanguinary aggression unleashed by the Israeli military against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples last summer," *Pravda* said.

"Washington, having made use of the fruits of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, has now actually taken the path of an undeclared war against the Lebanese," the paper charged.

3,000 El Salvador troops battle left-wing guerrillas

SAN SALVADOR (Reuters). — About 3,000 government troops were locked in fierce fighting with left-wing guerrillas yesterday after mounting one of the biggest thrusts on rebel strongholds in El Salvador's four-year civil war, army spokesmen said.

The troops, led by elite U.S.-trained battalions, launched a string of attacks before dawn in eastern Morazan Province where guerrillas have overrun more than 80 towns and killed hundreds of soldiers in a four-month offensive.

Military spokesmen said heavy fighting was still going on, with casualties on both sides, but no

figures were immediately available.

They said a rebel base near the village of San Fernando, about 116 kilometres from San Salvador, was captured in a surprise attack.

Other airborne troops, backed by infantry men from the U.S.-trained Atlacatl battalion, fought guerrillas for hours before ousting them from the town of Torola, just south of San Fernando. Torola has been in rebel hands for more than a year.

Army spokesmen said the attacks reflected a more aggressive strategy after nearly all the army's field commander were reshuffled earlier this month to regain the military initiative from the rebels.

Soldiers can't place 'killer' in Philippine murder probe

MANILA (AP). — A member of a panel probing the murder of Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino said yesterday he was surprised that so many soldiers charged with protecting the opposition leader were either looking away or had their backs turned just before he was shot.

Lawyer Luciano Salazar questioned the failure of military witnesses to provide any definite evidence on where the alleged assassin, Rolando Galman, might have been hiding before Aquino was killed.

"Did he drop from the sky, or did the ground open up and he appeared?" Salazar asked air force sergeant Ablo Martinez, who testified at an ongoing public hearing on the August 21 assassination at Manila Airport.

Martinez, one of dozens of soldiers deployed around the plane, said he was standing about six metres from the stairway Aquino

was descending, but turned his back away to check the security perimeter for possible infiltrators. When he looked back, Martinez said, "I saw a man poking a gun behind Sen. Aquino's head and simultaneously there was a shot."

Like other soldiers who had testified earlier, Martinez said he took part in a military reenactment of the incident which showed the alleged gunman crouching behind the stairway. Asked by Salazar how anyone could say the gunman was there since no one has so far attested to it, Martinez replied, "I don't know who thought of that."

Public lawyer Raul Gonzales touched off a heated argument after he claimed he had received an anonymous letter saying soldiers at gunpoint had told airport workers near Aquino's plane to "drop to the ground" just before shooting broke out. Gonzales said the soldiers apparently did not want civilians to see what was going on.

Body of slain U.S. bishop found

MANAGUA (AP). — The body of an American Roman Catholic bishop the government says was killed by U.S.-backed rebels has been found in a remote village in northeastern Nicaragua, a government source said yesterday.

In Washington, a senior U.S. official said he had received word confirming the death of Bishop Salvador Schiafer. However, he said there was no basis for the Sandinista report that he was killed by rebels seeking to oust the leftist government.

The source, who spoke on condition he not be named, said the

government had taken a group of journalists to the area by plane to photograph the body and confirm that Schiafer had been killed by U.S.-backed rebels.

The ruling Sandinista junta said in a radio bulletin that it had information that the bishop was killed early Wednesday while resisting his rebel captors at Wisconsin.

(Continued from Page One)

to attract more customers, Raveh says: "We asked for budget for publicity three years ago, but it wasn't approved. I can't say by whom."

Asked whether the commercial banks have pressured the government not to publicize the Postal Bank, Raveh says: "I am not aware of any pressure."

According to Raveh, the Postal Bank has been used by the government over the years as a way of restraining the commercial banks from increasing their charges unreasonably. The Postal Bank provides all the checking and savings services that the commercial banks do, except for allowing overdrafts, making foreign currency transactions, offering mortgages, and brokering stock exchange transactions.

Few Israelis know that they can ask their employer to transfer a part or all of their monthly salary to the Postal Bank and enjoy completely free services, including cheques

Turkey will refuse cruise missiles

ANKARA. — Turkish Defence Minister Zeki Yavuzturk said yesterday Turkey will not allow deployment of U.S. cruise missiles on its territory.

Denying foreign press reports earlier this week that Turkey would be among NATO countries that would allow the weapons on its territory, Yavuzturk told reporters: "There is no question of letting cruise missiles be deployed in our country."

Meanwhile, the Federal German Supreme Court refused yesterday to issue an injunction sought by anti-missile groups to block deployment of cruise missiles as well as U.S. Pershing 2 missiles.

The court ruled that the decision to station nuclear missiles was up to federal agencies responsible for "the effective defence" of West Germany. (Reuters, AP)

Pakistan hockey team defeated by customs

KARACHI (Reuters). — Pakistan's hockey team suffered its second defeat in a week Wednesday night when customs police seized millions of rupees worth of goods its members were trying to smuggle in from Hongkong, customs officials said yesterday.

Video cassette recorders (VCR), jewelry, whisky and other items worth at least four million rupees (about \$30,800) were confiscated when the luggage carrying them was not claimed, they said.

The officials named no names, but said almost all team players and officials as well as the sports reporters and fans accompanying them tried to bring in at least one VCR each. They seized 72 VCRs, over 1,500 watches, over 60 radios, three cases of whisky and other goods.

Pakistan lost 3-1 to Australia in the finals of a 10-nation tournament Monday.

IRA man held

LONDON (AP). — A convicted Irish Republican Army bomber was arrested in Manchester yesterday for questioning about the bombing of Harrods department store in London, Britain's Press Association news agency reported.

The domestic news agency said the man, who was not identified, was arrested after a series of raids.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Death toll reaches 68 in U.S. cold spell

NEW YORK (AP). — The death toll reached 68 yesterday in the wake of storms that left up to 24 centimetres of snow in some parts of the U.S. In all, the temperature broke or tied record lows in 33 cities Wednesday, with minus 39 temperature at Casper, Wyoming, an all-time low for December.

16 die, over 200 hurt in Bangladesh train crash

DACCA, Bangladesh (AP). — At least 16 persons were killed Wednesday and more than 200 injured when a passenger train collided head on with a freight train at Dhala station 130 kilometres from Dhacca. The train ignored a stop signal and hit the stopped freight train during a heavy fog.

Canada sues Soviets for victims of air incident

OTTAWA (AP). — The Canadian government formally notified the Soviet Union Wednesday it is claiming \$1.7 million in damages on behalf of eight Canadians killed when Soviet fighters shot down a Korean jumbo jet September 1, killing 269.

The claim was immediately rejected by Soviet Ambassador Alexey Rodionov, who was summoned to the External Affairs Department to receive it.

Cyprus president protests UN 'provocation'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP). — The President of Turkish Cyprus, Rauf Denkash, yesterday gave a protest note to the commander of the UN peacekeeping force here over alleged provocations by Greek Cypriot troops south of the green line dividing Greek and Turkish Cyprus.

Denkash received Austrian General Günther Griendl in the Turkish sector of this divided capital to show him a film as proof of provocations that he claimed included "immoral gestures."

China develops first super computer

BEIJING (Reuters). — China yesterday unveiled its first super-computer, called "Galaxy," capable of carrying out 100 million operations a second and closely related with defence.

5,000 Thai insurgents surrender

BANGKOK (Reuters). — More than 5,000 Communist guerrillas and their sympathizers surrendered to the authorities yesterday at a formal ceremony in northern Thailand.

Officials said the surrender was the biggest such occasion in Thailand. About 20,000 defence volunteers and village scouts also took part in the ceremony at a stadium in Nan Province, near the border with Laos.

Nan was the Communists' last stronghold in northern Thailand, and the officials said the mass surrender showed that fighting in the area had ended.

They added that about 1,200 Communists were still fighting the government in the south.

The supreme commander of the armed forces, General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, presided over the ceremony and told the former insurgents: "We will from now stop fighting each other and we hope you all will start your new life in the right way."

At their peak strength about 10 years ago, Communist guerrillas had 13,000 fighters throughout Thailand.

Jesus crucified on 'April 3, 33 CE'

LONDON (Reuters). — Jesus was crucified on Friday, April 3 in the year 33 CE, according to new calculations by two British experts published yesterday.

Jesus has been commonly held to have been crucified in the year 30. Colin Humphreys and W.G. Waddington, astrophysicists at Oxford University, wrote in the British journal, *Nature*, that the only certainty about the crucifixion was that it took place when Pontius Pilate was procurator of Judea, 26-36 CE.

The evidence from the Christian Bible was that it took place a few hours before midnight on Friday, and around Passover time.

The two men reconstructed the Jewish calendar of the time and computed new astronomical data that reduced the number of possible dates to four. These were reduced to two using evidence from the Christian Bible, April 7, CE 30 and April 3, CE 33.

Humphreys and Waddington then studied references in the Bible

and elsewhere describing "the moon turned to blood" on the evening of the crucifixion.

They cited medieval and biblical annals to show that such a phrase was commonly used to describe a lunar eclipse.

They said they used "the most comprehensive data" in the light of Babylonian records and long-term changes in the earth's rate of rotation and discovered that a lunar eclipse would have been visible from Jerusalem on April 3, CE 33.

Eleven other lunar eclipses occurred in the 30-year period, but none took place both on a Friday and at Passover time, the two experts said.

They said it was well known that some lunar eclipses turned the shadowed area of the moon blood red and the clear part to a yellow-orange colour, adding: "A lunar eclipse on the same night as the crucifixion would... have been interpreted by many as a supernatural sign."

keep enough money in their accounts to cover their standing orders. Thus, for the commercial banks, standing orders are most welcome.

BUT ALL THIS is negligible compared to the real incentive for the commercial banks to serve as a bill-paying agent for the various authorities.

In a scathing yet little-noticed chapter in the recently published 33rd annual State Comptroller's Report (part 2), the banks are shown to have violated the terms of a 1973 agreement with the government regarding the transfer of funds.

Instead of granting the banks a commission for collecting money payable to the various authorities, the government agreed that the banks hold on to the money for several days.

The State Comptroller estimated that the total collected by the banks in the 1982 fiscal year was \$185 billion, or about \$15 billion a month. By holding on to the money for four days, the banks made 1.3 per cent of the total sum, or \$2.4 million. An increasing percentage of these transfers comprised standing orders, which cost the banks very little due to the automatic computer operation and minimal manpower involved.

According to the State Comptroller, the banks collected a wide variety of payments under this arrangement: income tax, TV licence fees, telephone bills, VAT and purchase tax Operation Peace for

Sports

SOCCER PREVIEW

Can Yavne or Bnei Yehuda surprise the runaway leaders

By PAUL KOHN

Post Sports Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The joint league leaders, Betar Jerusalem and Hapoel Tel Aviv, are both away tomorrow in the last game before the National Soccer league goes into a fortnight's recess. Although the season is not even at the halfway stage, it is already a heavy odds on bet that one of these two sides will garner the Championship next spring. But which?

Both are undefeated. Betar have shown more flair in attack netting 23 goals to the Tel Avivians 18, but Arie Bejerano and his sturdy defence have conceded only five goals in 11 games.

Betar go to Yavne, where the home Maccabi club are in rare high spirits following some very good results. They held Hapoel Tel Aviv to a goalless draw at Bloomfield last Saturday, with goalkeeper Yitzhak Levy in outstanding form. This game will be no walkover despite the splendid efforts of Uri Malmilian, Danny Neuman, and Eli Ohana, but they still must be favoured to come away with the full complement of points.

Hapoel go just across town to face bottom placed Bnei Yeh. Contrary to Yavne, morale in Hapoel's quarter is at its lowest. Bnei Yehuda's football perhaps not as bad as their last position — propping up the table would suggest, but their form are simply not finding the net, goals scored in 11 games is team's grand tally for the season. Only Fabian in goal and Se Chauvel in defence have prevented bigger defeats. Even then, however may not be enough to hold a team that includes Moshe S. Shabtai Levy, Gil Landau and Turk.

At Bloomfield, fans will be treated to a Tel Aviv derby between Shamshon and Bnei Yeh. Together with Maccabi Tel Aviv both teams have ambitions to close the gap on the leaders. There is little to choose between them as Bnei Yeh have done creditably well thus far to claim third place in the league in their first season since winning promotion. The presence of a Colan in midfield makes a real difference and he is likely to be as much a factor as Daniel's dynamic role for Shamshon. As Tel Aviv appear to have an easier task at Hapoel at the same venue.

The looming crisis at Netanya can be avoided if Hapoel, Levie, Gafand and L. remain something of their true form and decide to win over a third in front of the crowd.

Dutch despair at Maltese massacre

AMSTERDAM (Reuters). — Dutch soccer players and fans reacted with stunned disbelief to the Spanish goal avalanche against Malta on Wednesday night which eliminated the Netherlands from the European soccer championships finals.

Spain's 12-1 thrashing of Malta in Seville was just enough to take them to next year's finals in France ahead of the Dutch. The Dutch, following the game live on television, had confidently expected to qualify, but in the aftermath they aimed most blame for failure at themselves, rather than at the pathetic Maltese defence which held out fairly well until half time when the score was 3-1.

Thereafter, the Spaniards struck goals at sickening regularity as far as the Dutch were concerned. An average of one every five minutes was enough.

Rugby at Yizre'el

TEL AVIV. — The visiting Western Province Maccabi team open their Israeli tour against a combined Kibbutzim XV at Kibbutz Yizre'el tomorrow afternoon.

Kick-off is at 2 p.m. with the match being preceded by two carols of youth teams starting at 11.30.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL: NBA results — Utah 133 Indiana 115; Boston 107 Atlanta 96; Philadelphia 122 San Antonio 121; Detroit 119 Cleveland 112; Portland 116 Phoenix 112; San Diego 128 Houston 97.
ICE HOCKEY: NHL results — NY Rangers 6 Pittsburgh 1; Toronto 5 St. Louis 4; Hartford 6 Buffalo 3.

Finnish veterans took marathon honor

By JACK LEON

EIN GEV. — Finnish runners showed their traditional strength the veterans' competition Wednesday's Sea of Gali marathon. Steppo Matela won over-40 event — pushing it holder Barry Shaw of Kibit Mishmar Hasharon into second place. Kalevi Karesniemi was 1st in the over-60 category, but Harold Green, a settler in Manchester, prevented him making a clean sweep of the honours by winning the over-60 championship and edging Karesniemi into second place in section of the competition.

The three veterans' events attracted a total entry of over athletes. The oldest participant 76-year-old Tel Avivian Yo Bein, who got home in well over six hours. Bein has the unique record of having run in all marathons so far held in the country.

One of the few competitors not deterred by the fierce weather, which affected times was 37-year-old Daniel Honig, who exactly to his predicted 84-minute time-table as he introduced sport of triathlon to Israel. His first swim three kms in the Sea of Gali, then he cycled 90 kms around the lake before taking in the marathon — a grand total 135 kms. He completed marathon in four hours flat.

Spanish parliament to probe air crashes

MADRID (Reuters). — The Spanish Congress (lower house) has created a commission to investigate two crashes that killed 274 persons Madrid's Barajas Airport in the month.

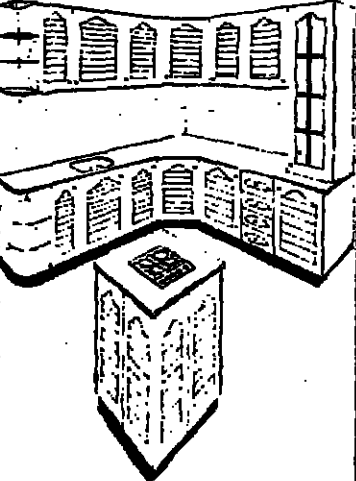
The proposal by the Catalan minority was unanimously approved last night, but a motion submitted by the rightist popular alliance calling for political and administrative responsibilities to be determined was rejected.

Transport Minister Enrique Baron said the proposal implied existence of anomalies.

On November 27, a Boeing 747 the Colombian airline Aviar crashed on its final approach Barajas, killing 181. Ten days later 93 persons died when two Spanairliners collided on the runway thick fog.

SUMMIT. — The next Arab summit meeting will be held in Riyadh Saudi Arabia.

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FOCUS

The Jerusalem Post's David Krivine talks to Nissim Baruch (below), economic adviser to the prime minister

NISSIM BARUCH — once a treasury official, later an economic consultant and most recently head of the Rascos building company — has been appointed economic adviser to the prime minister. This post has no precedent.

Baruch is the governor of the Bank of Israel's ex officio economic adviser to the cabinet. Yigael Cohen-Orgad made finance minister by appointing Baruch to handle economic matters on the premier's behalf. Is this a case for yet another adviser?

Baruch: "The difference is that I have no operational responsibilities, a position which offers me both advantages and handicaps. The advantage is that I can supply the prime minister objectively with the information he needs. I am not influenced by departmental considerations. The handicap is that I don't get things done — the only thing seconded to me is the power of persuasion."

Baruch is a Herutnik, also an old acquaintance of Cohen-Orgad. A time we were competitors: both headed economic consultancy firms. On occasion we cooperated, e.g., when Kissinger, as secretary of state, threatened a reassessment of U.S. policies towards Israel.

Cohen-Orgad and I formed part of a team that worked out what I should do to survive and co-exist with diminished American aid. Our recommendations included a reduction in living standards and a reduction in the amount of foreign aid, he smiles.

Thinking of living standards, how do you see the present economic situation? There are four problems, one of them being the lack of economic growth.

Is this the most serious problem? It is an impact on the other three, waiting for its severity. Living standards go on rising after production tails off, so everything is in deficit, notably the current account and the balance of payments. The loan burden increases, inflation soars.

The second problem is Israel's instability. A big proportion of gross national product goes to the military. Consequently we are more than other countries in a position to fluctuate internationally. We sell overseas 30 or 40 per cent. If two or three of those

'The budget must be slashed. You won't find any expert, any economist, who will tell you otherwise'

are seriously affected by a change in the market (e.g. diamonds, or aircraft, or defence exports, which are dependent on political, not economic, decisions), the repercussions are considerable.

The third problem is the excessive size of the state budget. "The public sector has grown too large in view of the fact that it draws its sustenance from the business sector." How does he define these two sectors? "The public sector consists of activities financed by taxes (or government borrowings). The business sector is made up of undertakings that depend for their living on the sale of goods and services under competitive conditions."

HOW OVERBLOWN is Israel's public sector? He will not say. The question is too specific, and he brushes it aside. "The public sector must shrink a lot during the next two or three years. After that we'll see."

Explaining how the social services tend to dilate, he recalls: "A study made in the mid-Sixties concluded that it was possible to solve the problem of backward children by providing the schools concerned with two teachers per child."

"This is no doubt true, and the purpose is a noble one. But if manpower is siphoned off for worthy social causes on such a scale, there will be nobody left to grow crops and make food and produce manufactured goods."

The sectors must be balanced. They can expand — but at the pace of the business sector, because that is where the resources come from. "When we talk of economic growth," says Baruch, "we mean growth of production. The growth of the public sector is largely a bookkeeping entry — even though the long-term effects can be positive."

Trimming the public sector means cutting budgets, and the resistance to that is tremendous. Baruch believes in persuasion: "If you tell the civil servants in the various departments, 'Your ship is overloaded with passengers and is sinking,' they will understand and cooperate. We did that in Rascos. I pointed out to the employees: 'I am not liquidating the company; you are.' We got together and agreed on economies, including the shedding of surplus staff."

"A consensus has to be achieved, because there is no other way. Reforms can't be imposed by force. There is no alternative solution either: the budget must be slashed. Search high and low, you won't find any expert, any economist who will tell you otherwise. We must talk the



rank-and-file into accepting the need."

Many believe, not without reason, that reducing their activity would damage the national interest. The universities create knowledge. The economy depends on knowledge for its growth. Such a process can surely not be curtailed? "Suppose that in two years' time, the nation is assailed by mass unemployment. What good would all the higher education be then?" he asks.

But people do not swallow that argument, and the authorities seem to be hitting their head against a brick wall. "Not so. The universities for example understand. The Council for Higher Education has accepted the need for an eight per cent cut next year in the universities' budget."

Besides, the saving does not all have to come at the expense of the research and teaching programmes. Half the staff in Israel's universities are non-academics. I don't know the comparative figure for institutions abroad, but I have a strong feeling that employing as many people on the administrative as the scholastic side is overdoing it. There must be a way of managing with less."

The country lives on handouts from the government, Baruch points out. The government is expected to solve all problems. Why should not the students be made to pay higher fees? Today they contribute 5 to 10 per cent towards the cost of their higher education. An increase to \$1,000 per annum, as has been suggested, would bring their payment up to one-third of cost. If they were charged that, they would have a greater commitment to their studies.

"Today the link is university-government. Under the new system, the link would be much more university-student. They would take a greater interest in what goes on. In 1976, when Aharon Yadlin was

education minister, we persuaded the students to accept a graded-fee system, which included a higher ceiling charge."

The dockers showed no signs of volunteering to lighten the belt. Have they a case? "The dockers' wage demand is justified: They increased their production and want a share of the saving achieved."

"The saving is that the same amount of work can be done with less hands. But they won't permit the dismissal of those made redundant. They want the best of both worlds." (This was stated before the settlement of the dispute last Wednesday.)

Would it not be better to let them have what they ask for to avoid the enormous damage done by their slowdown? "People are indeed pressing us to stop arguing and to yield. If we agree, if we go on paying salaries to workers who have nothing to do, we may as well pack in the effort to straighten out the national economy, and go home."

NISSIM BARUCH has been criticized for hinting that the country's exporters are getting too much aid out of the public purse, this at a time when they are clamouring that they don't get enough. Do exporters have to be squeezed, too?

"I favour helping exports, but the question is where do we draw the line. The slogan 'export at all costs' is misleading. We need exports that are economic, exports that can cover the expense of producing them and show a profit."

"When the cycle of world trade is

up, and the business community find their foreign sales booming, they want the government to let them enjoy their profits in peace. When the cycle is down, they want the government to make up the shortfall and supply the missing profits. They require 100 per cent security in good times and bad. That is too much to expect."

"The government should intervene when there is a danger of losing a market. But the first shock of harder times must be carried by the exporters themselves."

And are the times hard? "Not as hard as all that," Baruch intimates. "Export companies have not been discarding labour. That means one of two things. Either part of their manpower is idle, in which case extra exports would be profitable whatever the price gouged out of the customer. Or the manpower is busy at work — supplying the domestic market." It is obvious which of the two alternatives Baruch thinks is happening.

The domestic market is paradoxically in boom, partly because of the measures taken recently to make imports more expensive. Local suppliers are filling the void: they find it more profitable to see at home, replacing now-costly imports, than to sell abroad.

Baruch pursues the point further: "If we subsidize exports excessively, we may be causing the trade deficit actually to deteriorate. How come? 'When we pour public money into the exporters' pockets, we may be on the one hand fostering the marketing overseas of products in which we have no comparative advantage, and which have no prospect of establishing themselves in foreign markets.'

"On the other hand, the ready cash pumped into the exporting branch increases their purchasing-power and therefore the demand they exercise on the nation's resources. More demand means more imports. The end-result may be more imports sucked in than (genuine) exports pushed out."

THE PRESENT deterioration in the balance of payments is due less (in his view) to the lag in exports than to the growth in imports. The remedy applied has (again) created new problems. Instead of reducing demand, the authorities have, as

stated, stepped up the price of imports, through the import levy and other devices. This protective policy improves the market for the domestic producer, who has seized the opportunity with both hands.

"What has happened," Baruch says, "finds reflection in the index of wholesale prices, up last month by 10 per cent. This rise will work itself into the index of consumer prices next month, creating an inflationary spiral which does not derive from increased input costs. Prices are soaring excessively, for two reasons: the market will bear it, and business firms are exploiting the favourable contingency."

He looks disgusted. "There is no consumer resistance: the seller gets away with charging what he likes."

Is not that because runaway inflation has bewildered the public, who no longer know how much their purchases ought to cost?

Baruch nods his agreement, adding: "The government departments dealing with price control should give their attention to the issue. They ought to contact the various producer and merchant organizations, and put a break on this trend."

Does not the supply of American goods, which has been so plentiful, leave all these unsolved problems for the future? "I hope not," he says. "U.S. aid is valuable to us: it improves our standing and better our credit-rating in world markets."

"But it has a price. We must plan to reduce our dependence on foreign loans and grants. We are able to do that if we take the right steps. The Israeli economy possesses the capacity to achieve the national target of financial self-sufficiency in the course of time. Everything depends on the action taken towards that end — and not just by the government."

"I repeat, it's a mistake to look to the government for everything. The business and worker communities must tackle the problem, too. It's a challenge for the whole nation," he concludes.

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THE SOVIET UNION'S 10,000 Jewish refuseniks have no organization and no spokesman. Under the Soviet system, no independent organizations are possible outside party control. Those Soviet Jews who seek exit visas must do so alone; each one, each family must take its own decisions, risking professional livelihood and long years of uncertainty.

Despite the dangers of Jewish activism, young Soviet Jews are constantly drawn in to the growing search for Jewishness: the desire to know about Jewish history and culture, religion and traditions.

One such young man is the 40-year-old Leonid Kelbert, a film-maker from Leningrad, one of whose films, *The Catastrophe Will Not Happen*, won three prizes in the Cuban Film Festival in 1975.

Another of Kelbert's films, *The Ideas of Academician T. Salikov*, won the gold medal at the Czech Film Festival in 1976. A third film, *Ice and Fire*, which he made in 1980 for the Italian Film Festival, was shown on Italian television, but under another director's name. For on November 9, 1979, Kelbert was refused permission to go to Israel. He had become a "non-name."

At the time of his first application for an exit visa, Kelbert was 35 years old. A graduate of the State Institute of Cinematography, he knew nothing about Jewish culture, spiritual heritage or traditions. Having been refused permission to emigrate, he found himself drawn to these Jewish values. "I plunged into all of this greedily," he now recalls, "because the lack of real spiritual food was an important component of my creative dissatisfaction."

It was Kelbert himself who decided to turn from his official work to the new world of Jewish culture. "Nobody dismissed me. I was even asked to remain at my job. I left it because I was not satisfied with the creative level, the conditions of censorship, and with the lack of possibilities to express myself."

KELBERT BEGAN his new life by lecturing on Jewish topics. He had six themes: Heinrich Heine; the genesis of Christianity; Jews and the Christian world up to the 17th century; the interaction of Hebrew and Arabic cultures in philosophy and poetry in Spain; the texts of the Dead Sea Scrolls; and the history of the Jewish theatre in the Soviet Union.

Kelbert gave his first lecture, on Heine, on November 9, 1980, the anniversary of his first "refusal." Arising out of these wide-ranging, Jewish-related interests, Kelbert began to stage short plays in the apartments of friends. The presentation of these plays arose, he later explained, because of "my own strong wish and the desires of the enthusiasts to act and to direct; an interest in Jewish drama, which appeared to be strikingly interesting and real." This interest in his

MASADA IN LENINGRAD

Martin Gilbert describes the plight of a refusenik film-maker and his family.

'In our situation, most of all we need international support and assurance'



The Kelberts (from left): Maria, Liza, Ruth and Leonid.

(Martin Gilbert)

dramas, Kelbert felt, reflects the mentality of the young Jews around him, with their search for "the ethical principle of the world and of man."

The first of Kelbert's productions were a series of humorous Purim plays. Later he wrote and produced a play called *The Lot*, the story of the Jews trapped on Masada by the Roman legions who resorted to mass suicide rather than become the objects of a Roman and pagan triumph. The *Masada* play was first performed on November 9, 1981, the second anniversary of his "refusal."

EARLY IN 1982, Kelbert decided to perform one of his plays in Riga. But when a friend went to Riga to find an apartment and alert an audience, he was stopped in the street and told: "You may return to Leningrad. Your friends will not come to Riga. Riga is a hospitable city, but not for all."

A few days later, on February 13, 1982, Kelbert accompanied two French visitors from his apartment to the Metro. His wife, Maria, who remained at home, was eight months pregnant. What followed

may seem to belong to the world of theatre. But it happened, in reality, on the streets of Leningrad.

Kelbert was accused of "pestering" a passer-by, then of "knocking out the stranger's false teeth," finally of cursing and "waving his hands" in the street. Despite pointing out that, with a bottle of lemonade in each hand, he could hardly have knocked out the false teeth without dropping one of the bottles, he was sentenced to 15 days in prison.

KELBERT SERVED his 15 days. Then he returned to his private theatricals. Shortly after his release, he gave his 20th performance. All those entering the apartment to see the play were stopped at a police picket and forced to show their documents, including the "internal passport" in which, for Jews, their "nationality" is inscribed as "Jew."

To those whose documents he checked, the senior police officer made a sign with his fingers — the sign of crossed bars — as to signify, "all you will be imprisoned." Yet, as Kelbert himself stresses, "my theatre — if it can be called so — is not only Jewish but, first of all, a purely cultural undertaking. It is not

anti-Soviet, nor pro-Soviet, but an official theatre; a natural continuation of old traditions of folk-theatres."

Kelbert believes that "wandering theatres," such as his — given free of charge, with direct actor-audience contact, and their special intimacy — "could in future be a kind of an alternative to the mass, or official, culture."

In this "theatre of the apartment," or, as Kelbert calls it, "the theatre without any stage," the response of the audience became "a kind of self-identification."

"For most of our audience," Kelbert notes, "it was the first meeting with their history, with their culture — and unexpectedly, it appeared that the circle of the problems was far wider than individualistic: 'To be or not to be?' They are the same problems which were not solved by our fathers and grandfathers, and which we have to solve."

DESCRIBING HIS WORK in a letter to a friend, Kelbert wrote about his *Masada* play: "I built the whole performance around this self-identification: total darkness, black background and black clothes for the actors, light from the candle, which was put behind the actors, silhouetted them and gave mysteriousness and some special effect that I can't describe."

"It is an effect of an intimacy and a confidence together, and at the same time it gives space for imagination. Add the tragedy of the events, add the strain of the choice: 'What was the right choice: to die as Jews or to exist as slaves, preserving this way the people and the possibility for future generations...'"

"An impression was so strong," Kelbert added, "that sometimes there were tears in the eyes of some of an audience," and he went on to explain how: "After every performance there are some minutes of absolute silence and only after the actors have changed their costumes and come before the audience is there always a lot of generous and sincere applause. And after this there is a discussion. This moment can sometimes be the most exciting one."

Kelbert explained: "It could be an elderly man standing and describing a time when he was working in the Jewish theatre of Mikhoels and how he is now afraid to give his telephone number because of his neighbours — anti-Semites."

"Or the woman, crying, who described how she survived Babi Yar and how her whole life she tried not to think about it, not to remember, and now she suddenly has understood that it is necessary not to forget and to remind it to others."

had to enter through the wind police were "blocking" entrance to the apartment.

On December 23, 1982, he wrote to a friend in Britain: "In situation, most of all we need national support and assurance constant attention of public opinion — it is the only chance for us to live."

KELBERT LIVES in a single, with his wife. With them are wife's daughter, Liza, aged 10, and their one-year-old daughter, Ruth, born a few weeks Kelbert's release from his 15 days in prison.

As a family, the Kelberts have right under Soviet law to leave single room — part of a "municipal" apartment — and to cooperative apartment with rooms.

But to make such a pure Kelbert and his wife's references from their place work. These references must be "positive." Unfortunately, February 23, 1982, Maria Kelbert received a negative reference, are, therefore, unable to buy apartment, even of two rooms.

Maria Kelbert is a physiotherapist working in the Bureau of For Medicine. In 1976, after her application for a visa she was expelled from the Young Communist League. This fact was made clear her apartment "reference," reference also stressed that she had "no abilities for social activities," she did have "an interest in foreign languages." She was said to have a "friendly-selective indifferent attitude to her colleagues," to display "poor initiative," and to show "little interest" in her work.

The Kelberts complained to Municipal Medical Office a this negative reference. But Medical Office refused to follow their complaint. So it is that people continue to live a life, sharing an even sm bathroom with several families.

I myself was in Leningrad March this year, on the very day that Kelbert was given an of warning against continuing with Jewish cultural activities. He had chance of seeing Israel, he was only to see Birobidjan, the Jewish Autonomous Region in eastern Siberia, beyond Lake Baikal.

Kelbert continues to seek a visa. If the gates of aliya are to again, and to open soon, we may see his *Masada* performed better still, on Masada itself, in presence of its author.

Meanwhile, it would be an encouragement, both to Kelbert, to all the young Leningrad, who are in search of an exit visa, one of his humorous Purim plays could be staged at next Fourth International Congress of Jewish Culture, to be held in Tel Aviv. Such a performance would be a between Jewish aspirations in Soviet Union and the achievement and humour, of the Jewish itself.

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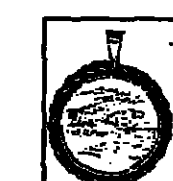
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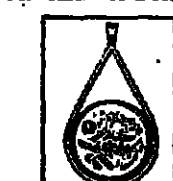


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An exhibition on Iranian Jewry will be held at the International Cultural Center for Youth at 12a Rehov Emek Refaim, Jerusalem.

The festive opening ceremony will take place on Thursday, December 29, 1983 at 6 p.m. The public is invited.

The exhibition will be open for four weeks, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily (except Fridays and Saturdays).

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Youth and Hechalutz Department

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12:00-lunch
1:30-tour of the City of David and Western Wall
6:00-dinner and singing
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About-face in Washington

By WOLF BLITZER

AT FIRST, Israel was widely praised in Washington for its decision to trade over 4,500 Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners for six of the Israeli soldiers captured by the PLO during the fighting in Lebanon. Israel had shown a tremendous amount of compassion for the lives of its own troops by making such a sacrifice.

But now, that decision by Israel is coming under increasing criticism in the United States. There are several reasons for this about-face.

For one thing, Reagan administration officials were irritated by Israel's repeated but, ultimately, unsuccessful efforts to block the peaceful evacuation of Yasser Arafat and his 4,000 PLO followers from Tripoli. How could Israel complain about that exodus after it had freed so many terrorists only a few weeks earlier, including many who were serving life sentences for murder?

The U.S. very reluctantly had gone along with the Tripoli evacuation and the scheme to use United Nations flags and French naval convoys to protect the chartered Greek vessels. For the Americans, there was a deeply felt humanitarian concern over the fate of Tripoli's civilian population of over 400,000. There was no illusion among senior U.S. officials over the intentions of the Syrian-sponsored PLO rebels, who were widely seen as ready — and perhaps even anxious — to crush the entire city in the effort to destroy Arafat and his remaining forces.

There was also, to be sure, a related political aspect of the U.S. decision to promote a safe escape for Arafat. U.S. officials were becoming increasingly convinced that the PLO leader might take a se-

cond look at authorizing Jordan's King Hussein to enter President Ronald Reagan's 1982 peace process. In comparison to Abu Musa and other Syrian-supported PLO rebels, Arafat was presumably more "realistic," even if it was still difficult to brand him a genuine moderate.

THE ADMINISTRATION has indicated in recent days that it plans at least to try to take advantage of this split within the PLO by encouraging Hussein once again to get involved in the peace talks. That was a major theme of Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali's talks with President Reagan and Secretary of State George Shultz this past week.

Still, few in Washington are convinced that this entire exercise is going to be any more productive this time than the earlier efforts to nudge Hussein to the table.

Last April, Hussein finally said no after failing to win support from Arafat and from other "moderate" Arab states. The entire Reagan plan, of course, was premised on the assumption that Jordan would represent the Palestinians — as opposed to the 1974 Rabat decision naming the PLO as the sole spokesman of

the Palestinians.

Israel's aerial and naval shelling of Arafat's positions in Tripoli during the days preceding the eventual evacuation came while both the White House and the State Department were issuing almost daily statements calling for a smooth PLO withdrawal.

Some U.S. officials charged that Israel's behaviour made Washington look foolish or impotent in the Arab world. Why was Israel disobeying the U.S. in the face of all the talk of closer strategic cooperation?

BUT THERE was a sense in Washington that Israel's tough response against Arafat was, in part, the result of some serious misgivings over the earlier prisoner exchange.

At a time when world-wide terrorism is clearly spreading, Israel let loose scores of proven killers who now, presumably, could plan some additional dirty tricks.

THERE WERE some administration policy-makers who insisted that Israel's refusal to promise a safe exit to the PLO until the very last minute was at least partially the result of all the controversy in Israel itself over the recent prisoner exchange.

One official called it an example of Israeli "pique." Another said the Israeli government was simply trying to "soothe its conscience." He referred to the criticism voiced by former chief of staff Rafael Eitan and others.

"Maybe it would make them feel better if they killed a few of Arafat's fighters," he added.

In justifying this Israeli posture towards Tripoli, Israeli officials said they were simply pursuing their non-stop war against terrorism. But if that were the case, why release so many PLO terrorists only a few weeks earlier?

Israel's answer, of course, always referred to the need to save the six soldiers. In response to that, U.S. officials spoke of the need to save the people of Tripoli.

U.S. officials had always assumed that Israel, in the end, would release most — if not all — of the Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners being held at the Ansar camp in Southern Lebanon. The Syrian POWs, they thought, would be eventually exchanged in agreements similar to those concluded following earlier wars.

But what Washington did not anticipate was Israel's final decision to include in the deal hardened PLO terrorists held in Israeli jails. That was what left the Americans almost dumbfounded.

It smacked of capitulation to terrorism — something Israel had avoided in the past. It seemed to signal a new flaw in the Israeli national psyche, an American official said. He called it "a weakness."

But he quickly added that Americans, also, were guilty of that same thing: "The difference is that we always thought the Israelis were

tougher than us when it came to dealing with terrorists," he said.

STILL, another American official dismissed as "totally out of the question" the possibility that the U.S. would even consider releasing any terrorists currently being held in American jails in exchange for Lieut. Robert Goodman, the captured American pilot in Syria. "We would never do that," he insisted.

In this regard, he added, even the Carter administration (which was not exactly a "tower of strength") had not indicated any readiness to swap any U.S.-held prisoners during the 444-day American hostage ordeal with Iran.

But Israel's image in the U.S. as a tough, no-nonsense, hard-nosed country has been changing over the years. This was underscored following the bomb blast at the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre on November 4 — only days after similar bombings had destroyed U.S. and French military installations in Beirut.

How could Israel have been so unprepared for that attack, especially after so many U.S. and French soldiers had been killed?

It showed, American officials said, that Israel is by no means a perfect society. Israel can and very often does make mistakes. Even Israel's army and intelligence services certainly among the best in the world — are capable of miscalculations.

This is also the case with the country's political leadership — whether Likud or Labour. All of these institutions, after all, are made up of people, and no one is perfect.

The writer is the Washington correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.

DIGNIFYING ARAFAT

By HIRSH GOODMAN

STRANGE THINGS happened off the coast of Tripoli this past week. Arafat and 4,000 of his men were finally prepared to leave the war-torn city, hand over their heavy weapons to the Lebanese Army, and be dispersed around the Middle East. Israel, a country that went to war 18 months ago to get the terrorists out of Lebanon, was preventing them.

It made very little sense and the government's evasive official explanation of what was going on did not help at all. The only rational reason given for the blockade and sporadic shelling of Tripoli by Israeli naval vessels — and the rationality is debatable — was that "it is good to have Arafat and the rebels continue to kill each other for as long as possible."

Had this happened a few months ago, when Ariel Sharon was still defence minister, perhaps it would have made sense. But somehow the simplistic dogma inherent in the explanation did not sound like Moshe Arens. Unfortunately, Arens chose not to speak, and made no effort to correct the impression being given by his party colleagues that this, Israel's desire to have Arafat and Abu Musa continue to kill each other, was indeed the main reason for the blockade.

For this was not the real reason at all. Moreover, whereas the notion of fostering Palestinian fratricide as a long-term solution to either the problems of Lebanon or the Palestinian problem itself, is almost puerile in its naivety, the true reasons motivating Arens made a great deal of sense, though they, too, raise many questions.

WHAT ARENS and the prime minister were apparently trying to avoid was the escape of Arafat without his being forced to make at least a minimal commitment that he would abandon his terrorist activities against Israel. Israel saw no reason why Arafat, especially after the Jerusalem bomb blast two weeks ago for which his Fatah claimed credit, should be allowed to get out of his very serious predicament under the aegis of the U.N. and the protection of France, without some undertaking to observe international standards of behaviour.

The idea behind the blockade and the sporadic shelling of his positions was to make Arafat, who is judged to still have political potential, pay something for his escape.

That departure was something Israel wanted to prevent, or at least to tie to an ironclad agreement that its embassies and offices abroad, its buses and supermarkets at home, would not have to absorb the price of Arafat's freedom.

ON THAT point there was a consensus within both the cabinet and the defence establishment. Where there were differences, however, including differences between Arens and Prime Minister Shamir, despite the latter's denial — was over the practicability of doing anything about the sorry situation. In order to keep Arafat in Tripoli, Israel had to be prepared to take actual military action against the international armada sailing to liberate him under the UN flag. If Israel was not prepared to state un-

quivocally that it intended to do exactly that, then its blockade had no credibility. And whatever credibility it may have had crumbled with the public warning from the White House not to do so, for Israel was certainly not prepared to ruin relations with America just as these were starting to pick up again, and with bigger things at stake than Arafat's immediate future.

But there was another consequence of keeping Arafat tied down in Tripoli to be considered. It would have meant the destruction of yet another Lebanese city with Israeli help. The world's anger with the PLO for doing to Tripoli what Israel had done to Beirut could now be deflected to Israel, with all this implied, making some ministers query the wisdom of what the Israeli Navy was doing off Tripoli.

Arens, apparently, genuinely believed that Israel could bring the issue to a point where he could secure not only concessions from Arafat, but the forced departure of Abu Musa and his men from Lebanon as well. His advice was to play our cards very close to the chest, leaving the U.N., the Greeks and the French apprehensive, while at the same time pulverizing Arafat's last positions with increasing intensity — and this while the clock ticked away to the deadline set by Abu Musa for the forcible expulsion of Arafat by last Tuesday.

THE FLAW in Arens' theory, however, was that it failed to take into account just how much the U.S. wanted Arafat out of Tripoli, and just how much pressure the Americans were prepared to exert on Prime Minister Shamir until a guarantee was forthcoming that Israel would not attack the rescue force. Shamir gave the guarantee without Arens' approval or even knowledge, leaving the defence minister pursuing a policy of brinkmanship off Tripoli and the rescue vessels secure in the assurance that they would not be attacked.

And all this while the official policy was to say nothing, and allow Likud Knesset Members to speculate, with assumed authority, that what we were actually trying to do was "get the Palestinians to kill each other." No wonder there was confusion.

Even without American pressure, it was unrealistic to assume that Arafat could be stopped. Instead of pursuing a policy of silence in order to cover up on impotent military moves, the government would have served Israel far better by stating clearly that Arafat would not be allowed to leave with impunity while still dedicated to terror, and certainly not so soon after claiming responsibility for another six civilians killed in Jerusalem.

Perhaps concessions could have been extracted if it had been clear that these were what we wanted. Instead, we have Arafat leaving aglow with success, flaunting the world's collective banner as a token of respectability, and on his way to plot his villainous future. And on the other side of the barricades, a frustrated Israel, with military credibility impaired, and the burden of Lebanon still squarely on its shoulders.

The writer is The Jerusalem Post defence correspondent.

Fresh options for Iraq

By DAVID BERNSTEIN

FOR THE PAST three years, Iraq — perhaps Israel's most uncompromising foe and a key element in the alliance of radical Arab states — has been effectively neutralized as far as the Arab-Israeli conflict is concerned.

Bogged down in a long-running and immensely costly war with Iran, Iraq has been too busy fighting for its own survival to divert its attention or its resources to what had previously been the focus of much of its policy in the region.

For Israel, this has all been extremely gratifying, and it has done little to disguise its satisfaction at the sight of two of its most deadly foes, Saddam Hussein's Iraq and the Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran, exhaust their energies and resources in a conflict that appears to be without issue.

Before the Gulf War, Iraq was the focus of much of the concern that Israel is now lavishing on Syria, with policy-makers in Jerusalem extremely worried about the immense effort and resources being invested in making the Iraqi army one of the largest and best equipped in the region.

That fear has now been greatly diminished, both because so much of Iraq's military strength has been squandered in the war with Iran, and because its surprisingly inept performance against the more poorly equipped but more highly motivated Iranians will have led to a revised assessment of the military threat posed by Iraq.

Even so, Iraq's almost total non-involvement in most of the major events affecting the Middle East during the past three years — including the war in Lebanon and President Reagan's Middle East peace initiative — will undoubtedly have been welcomed by Jerusalem. By the same token, it is debatable

that the present Israeli government will be viewing with very much satisfaction the growing signs that Iraq may be on the verge of re-involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict — not necessarily militarily, with the bulk of its army still tied down in the Gulf War — but politically.

THE LATEST SIGN of such possible re-involvement was the surprise visit to Baghdad this week of President Reagan's special Middle East envoy Donald Rumsfeld.

Baghdad has not been on the itinerary of any of Washington's recent Middle East envoys — or, for that matter, of any ranking American official since Iraq severed diplomatic ties with Iran after the Six Day War. Rumsfeld's visit has undoubtedly been a notable departure from past practice.

The immediate reason for the visit appears to be the spate of bomb attacks against American targets in Lebanon and Kuwait, which Washington apparently believes is the inspiration — and possibly more — of Iran.

American has gone out of its way to take a neutral position on the Iran-Iraq conflict. It has done nothing that might be interpreted by either side as a tilt in favour of its adversary.

But the latest bombings could well have persuaded Washington that the time has come to get off the fence and throw in its lot with Iraq — or, at least, to warn Iraq that any further Khomeini-inspired attacks on American interests in the region will result in such a development.

That, certainly, will be one interpretation the Iraqis will put on the Rumsfeld visit, which has been accompanied by reports from both Baghdad and Washington of a possible resumption in diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Iraq.

BEYOND ANY IMMEDIATE reason for Rumsfeld's visit, however, has been the steady distancing of Iraq from the circle of radical Arab states dedicated to Israel's destruction. Indeed, there has been a growing rapprochement with Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia — those traditional U.S. allies in the region which are moving, or have already moved, towards a readiness to accept some form of political accommodation with Israel.

The immediate catalyst for this development, has been the Gulf War, with Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the oil-rich Gulf states coming out in open support of Iraq. The ostensible reason for this bloc backing has been solidarity with a

fellow Arab state against a non-Arab aggressor. But the support plainly owes more to the deep-fear in all these countries that their regimes could provide future targets for a Khomeini offensive if Iran triumphs in its war with Iraq.

Whatever the reason, the fact remains that Iraq has drawn increasingly closer to those moderate states open to some form of political compromise with Israel, and distanced itself from those radical states for which any such solution remains anathema.

And there have been signs that this re-orientation has had a direct effect on Iraq's own perception of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

About six months ago, Saddam Hussein intimated for the first time to a visiting U.S. congressman that he, too, was moving towards a *de facto* acceptance of Israel's right to exist. It was not a statement calculated to send Jerusalem into ecstasies, but it was a significant improvement on Iraq's previous position, even if it was only a tactical play designed to win U.S. support in the context of the Gulf War.

IT COULD well be that Washington may now be attempting to build on this shift in Iraqi orientation in a bid to bring Baghdad within the scope of Reagan's Middle East peace initiative.

Israel is not directly a party to the initiative, which has so far restricted itself to bringing Jordan into the Middle East peace process by holding out the prospect of loosening Israel's hold on the West Bank.

But Iraq does, potentially, have an important role to play in any such initiative, as a neighbour and close ally of Jordan and — when it manages to disengage itself from the Gulf War — an effective counterweight to Syria's veto on

Jordan's participation in the peace process.

Iraq may also emerge as an increasingly important and influential sponsor of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat in the coming months — something that could prove crucial to the success of the Reagan plan, given Jordan's insistence that it cannot move on the initiative without a mandate from the PLO.

Arafat has several good reasons to turn to Iraq, not least among them the desire to get back at Syria for supporting the PLO rebels who, ultimately, drove him out of Lebanon.

In this context, the reports that several hundred Arafat loyalists evacuated from Tripoli this week will be going to Iraq are highly significant, and a visit to Baghdad by the PLO leader himself in the next few weeks would not be surprising.

WHATEVER the case, Rumsfeld's visit to Baghdad this week was undoubtedly an event of major importance, and whether it leads to a greater American involvement in the Gulf or greater Iraqi political involvement in the Arab-Israeli conflict, it is something that Jerusalem will be studying with considerable interest.

On the face of it, there should be little cause for alarm in Iraq's apparent reorientation, away from Israel's more inveterate foes and towards those with whom political dialogue may some day be possible. Nor should there be concern about Washington's growing, and possibly moderating, influence in Baghdad.

But that is not necessarily the way things will be perceived in Jerusalem.

The writer is The Jerusalem Post's Middle East affairs reporter.

Cairo's true position

By SHMUEL KATZ

ARE THERE any rational people in Israel who can still say they honestly believe that Egypt, in signing the peace treaty in 1979, aimed at peace for Israel, at the establishment of normal relations, at the inculcation of mutual respect and understanding in the peoples of the two countries?

Those Israelis (in all the political camps) who have hitherto preferred to ignore the mess of facts and indications to the contrary, a few now faced with a question that cannot be ignored. Why do the Egyptians object so strongly to the reported agreement for strategic cooperation between the U.S. and Israel — going so far as to describe it as portending "disaster" for the Arabs?

Why are they sending signals to the other Arab states to join in opposition to the agreement?

They know, just as we do, that the idea of cooperation evolved from the urgent American need to defend its immediate security interest in Lebanon, and that interest (if it can still be defended successfully) cannot be defended without the element of Israel's deterrent capacity. The agreement, whatever the nature of its ultimate application, is naturally intended as one means of influencing Syria towards withdrawal from Lebanon and certainly against trying to resume its domination over the country to which Syria has brought so much suffering and bloodshed.

Thereby the agreement serves as notice to the Soviet Union not to encourage Syria in expansionist ambition — which Cairo knows full well is an instrument in the Soviet's own expansionist design.

Why should Egypt object to such an agreement? Does Cairo want to see Soviet influence in the Middle East strengthened? Or indeed Syrian influence? More pointedly: why are American naval and air exercises reprehensible when held with Israel (as envisaged in the agreement) and constructive and welcome when held with Egypt (as

they have twice already been held)?

There is no need to go far afield for an answer. Consummation of the agreement would strengthen not only the position of the United States, but possibly also that of Israel as a stabilizing element in the region. Any strengthening of Israel is anathema to Egypt — as it is to all the Arab states. It tends to undermine their unchanged, unchanging purpose of isolating and weakening Israel. That purpose Egypt has pursued with relentless persistence almost since the day the peace treaty was signed in March 1979 — as though the treaty did not exist.

Again and again in these near-five years the believers — or pretending believers — in the pure motives of the Egyptians have been offered grim reminders that for Egypt the peace treaty was a heaven-sent instrument — initiated by Menachem Begin, not by Anwar Sadat — for Israel's surrender of Sinai; and that surrender brought Egypt one step nearer to the next phase of the projected shrinking of Israel: its withdrawal to the 1949 Armistice Lines. That withdrawal is the essential condition for the future goal, to be sought in cooperation with the other Arab states, of the elimination of the Jewish State from the map.

Those who believe, who indeed still delude themselves, that Egypt intends a living Israel to enjoy peace, should remember Egypt's behaviour — not just the recent past when Cairo used the "invasion of Lebanon" as the excuse for breaches or non-fulfilment of

various operational clauses of the treaty, but all that has happened since Sadat signed the treaty in March 1979: vicious government-controlled media, uninhibited world-wide propaganda, the record at the UN, and even Cairo's military preparations — all tell the same story — of abuse, denigration, contempt, condemnation and hatred of Israel, not to mention good old-fashioned anti-Semitism.

THE FEROCITY of Egypt's reaction to the U.S. agreement with Israel has been matched by the apologetic stance of Washington. Donald Rumsfeld — Washington's special envoy to the Middle East — hastened to "reassure" the Egyptians. How he reassured them has not been published. Significantly, however, his reassurances have not halted the Egyptians' remonstrances and protests, and their warnings of the dire — though unspecified — consequences that will attend consummation of the agreement. Moreover, Rumsfeld's visit to Cairo was followed immediately by Cairo's decision to send Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali to Washington (together with his deputy, Dr. Butros Ghali).

Whatever official explanations may be offered for this sudden visit to the U.S., the central purpose of Washington's invitation lies elsewhere: Egypt is about to be asked to cooperate in Washington's campaign to promote the Reagan Plan, which has been brought to life again, in these very days, by the

conclusion of the drama in Tripoli.

FATE, in Tripoli, has played into the hands of the Reagan administration. Yasser Arafat's hopeless position forced upon him (for the second time) the choice between leaving Lebanon or being crushed — this time by his "own" Syrian-backed rebels. Under inter-Arab pressure, the Syrians agreed to permit him to evacuate. In order to leave safely by sea, he needed guarantees against possible interference by Israel. Hence the outrageous proposal submitted to the UN Security Council to hoist the UN flag on the ships carrying 4,000 international terrorists to safety. There, at the Security Council, what should have been unbelievable happened. Obscenely was heaped upon outrage: the proposal was adopted unanimously.

Only a few days earlier the PLO had reaffirmed its role as an organization of indiscriminate murder by blowing up a crowded bus in Jerusalem. Six people — men, women, and two little sisters — were killed in that blast or since have died of their injuries.

In historic irony, some days after the vote at the Security Council, Britain suffered a similar barbaric attack by terrorists. Five people were killed in the car-bomb explosion executed by the Irish Republican Army in central London last Saturday. In the universal cry of horror and revulsion that went up in Britain nobody, from Prime Minister Thatcher downward, recalled that but a few days earlier Britain had supported a resolution at the Security Council giving tacit legitimization to barbaric terrorism.

The U.S., like Britain, not only failed to veto that resolution, but thereafter even exerted itself to ensure that the evacuation of Arafat and his men (so often in the past the beneficiaries of American protection) should not be prevented or delayed by Israeli action.


As the U.S. policy-makers perceived at once, a live and ar-

ticulate Arafat can at this moment be used to great account by Washington. In the light of the developments of the past fortnight, there can be little doubt that this time Washington has made a deal with Arafat, probably through the good services of Saudi Arabia. Its content would be approximately: "We shall see to it that you get safely out of Tripoli on condition that you then give your blessing to Hussein's agreeing to negotiate with Israel on the basis of the Reagan Plan."

INSTEAD THEN of waiting until after the Lebanese crisis is "resolved," or indeed until after the 1984 presidential election, Washington may now expect, as soon as a tamed Arafat gets to confer with Hussein (who is already preparing a royal welcome for him in Amman) to be able to announce a great triumph in foreign affairs: Hussein's announcement of his willingness to negotiate with Israel. His conditions will of course be that the basis for the negotiations will be the Reagan Plan and that the U.S. undertakes to secure a freezing of the Jewish presence in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, and that Washington will exert its utmost influence to secure the handing over by Israel of the "territory occupied in 1967." As he has repeatedly been promised all this, he can safely make his announcement.

There is no time to be lost, therefore, from Washington's point of view, in drawing Egypt (which of course embraced the Reagan Plan with enthusiasm from the beginning) into the campaign for its implementation.

The Tripoli chapter should in itself be sufficient to demonstrate to Israel the limited, strictly "Lebanese," scope of the plan for Washington's cooperation with Israel. It demonstrates, moreover, that the policy-makers in Washington neither slumber nor sleep in pursuit of their doctrinal policy towards the Arab-Israeli conflict.



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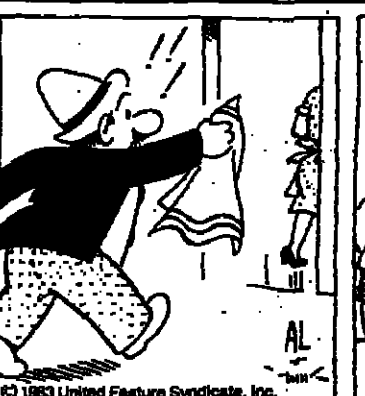
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Context

Friday, December 23, 1983 - The Jerusalem Post Page Nine

Zanier and zanier

TELEREVIEW/Philip Gilton

WHEN WE GET so desperate out conditions in Israel that we can't make a mad, we can derive a certain amount of consolation by realizing that other nations can even be more desperate than we are. On Friday night we were given insights into the oddities of the American political life in Gore Vidal's *The Best Man*. And I emerged with a snug feeling of superiority, never would our politics may be, but we are better than those of the

know that many things are new in our land. For example, Knesset has reached the stage in its sessions are devoid, not of listeners — an understanding and time-honoured phenomenon — but even of orators. Those who do bother to go to parliament at all may spend at some 40 minutes there three a week. As even the humblest of benches gets a minimum of 9,000 a month, this means that being paid \$294.4 a minute — bad, even in terms of today's inflated shekel.

I must concede, as further of the insanity of our system, our minister of finance does not put to the vote a single one of his proposals needed to put operation our Very Newest Economic Policy (as compared to a Ehrlich's New Economic Policy and Yoram Aridor's Newer Economic Policy).

religious zealots may have sent Christian friends of Israel building a \$12m. hostel in Jerusalem, on the ground that they secret missionaries trying to convert the allegedly ultra-religious neighbourhood of Gilo. Political life may be dominated by freaks pouring for somebody to be king of Israel, and our pre-election TV rising may be successfully seduced by PR firms to attract the feeble-minded infants. However oddball our political may be, it is not, repeat not, as insane as that of the U.S., as to judge from *The Best Man* saw last Friday night and the series we saw recently on the name Joe once had a very sane connotation. We assted it with a pleasant, amiable, shouldered guy. But ever Senator Joseph McCarthy nized America, we know that a man called Joe must be one of the creatures ever to infest the of the earth. Joe Cantwell, the n in *The Best Man*, is every bit as we expect him to be the ent we hear his name; he is like a incarnation of McCarthy. Those readers of this column were denied a chance to see excellent film because of antio discrimination — it was of the Friday night films they loomed to miss — I must ex that this evil Joe is running for presidential nomination against Russell. The name Bill has not debased in any way, and Rus-

sell is as good a guy as one could hope to find in any presidential race. But there is a problem. He is a lily-livered liberal, and, to make matters worse, an intellectual to boot: Henry Fonda conveyed these despicable traits by acting Bill with a flaccid spine, a pronounced stoop and spaniel eyes, while Cliff Robertson portrayed Joe as walking ramrod-straight and looking at people with the eye of a cobra hypnotizing a bird.

The film is based on a book by Gore Vidal, who served the Kennedys and can thus be presumed to know all the ins and outs of American politics. So I assume his presentation of how a convention works is 100 per cent accurate. If this assumption is valid, we are entitled to be snug, for we are much, much better than they are.

For some mysterious reason, the film was shot in black and white, although I missed the customary hasty explanation by Israel Television that they were not to blame, that was how the producers did it. Incidentally, I take this form of apology whenever there is no colour as a triumph for my campaign to colour-wash our television. I suspect that Vidal decided that black and white would give the product, made in 1964 but apparently depicting a convention at some earlier date, a spurious authenticity, like an old documentary. This was as absurd as it would be to do a film about President Taft using Edison's kinoscope. Recently, I had occasion to quote the precept of Bertie Wooster's Aunt Dahlia, "Long live blackmail! There's nothing to touch it." Senator Joe Cantwell worships this principle even more devoutly than Aunt Dahlia herself. He raises himself out of the dirt to become a contender for the top spot in the nation literally by blackmailing everyone with whom he had ever come into contact. And boy! Does he have the goods on poor old intellectual Bill Russell! By distributing a few bribes here and there, he has got hold of secret, psychiatric reports showing that Russell had a breakdown, and was a manic-depressive, a paranoid and a promiscuous womanizer who did not sleep with his wife. But Bill's people come up with the goods on Joe: while serving in the army, he was charged with committing a homosexual act. True, he got off, because he was able to blackmail General Connors, but the allegation was there.

Will Bill use this overwhelming ammunition? Well, you know old Bill and that absurd liberalism of his. He agonizes about it for hours, and, in the end, decides not to blackmail his opponent. Instead he withdraws from the race, but fixes Joe by handing over the delegates pledged to him on a plate to a mediocre, who wipes the floor with the villain.

Watching the film, I kept wondering how a guy like Joe would fare in our political life. What deadly secrets could his spies accumulate against his potential opponents? At one time Ezer Weizman made a despicable and clumsy attempt to blackmail Yitzhak Rabin, on the ground that he had had some kind of breakdown on the eve of the Six Day War; it failed dismally. How would Joe do if he produced evidence about an opponent's sexual promiscuity? I doubt whether a candidate would care. Israelis only admired Moshe Dayan as a *hewanan* when he was accused of not being altogether faithful to his then wife.

So, on the whole, we can count our one and only blessing: however woeful our political performance may be, we are still greater than the greatest of all democracies, as long as you don't look at the West Bank.

Glenn Keelies:
Up there in Glasgow, the only intelligible word I could grasp was "arse," which was used in almost every sentence. Whether this indicates some national Scottish psychological preoccupation, I cannot say, but for all I could tell most of the people in the film could have been talking Guejati.

At the best of times, the storyline in *Strangers* is veiled in so many allusions that one has to be a very astute detective to follow what is going on. I think that this week bad gangsters, headed by a Pakistani, were trying to effect a takeover from good gangster named Willie, one of George's tried and trusted buddies. George made a real ass — or arse — of himself, losing a girl called Ferguson, who was really somebody else, whom he was supposed to take to London. When he got very properly bawled out by Lambie, a Scot who somehow manages to speak articulately, George's sensibilities were hurt. So he hit Lambie a devastating blow in the mouth. But the story has a happy ending, as Lambie hits him back. I think that was the plot, but I cannot guarantee it.

MEIR SHALEV'S Good Hour on Friday night was one of the best ever. The highlight was the appearance of four Olmert brothers, three of whom, particularly Yossi, were attractive and sensible.

Then there was the return of Chan Canasta, doing the most formidable trick I have ever seen. Somehow or other he selected the exact line in a book that one of the men on the stage had picked, but how he did it is beyond my imagination. As Shalev said, it would be worthwhile to go into partnership with him. Apart from his magic, he has the most engaging personality imaginable.

The newspeople were guilty of one of the worst snafus in the history of Israel Television, when on Saturday night, they edited the film on the car-bomb at Harrods in such a way as to indicate that the IRA had bombed Regents Park and Hyde Park that same day and not over a year ago. This precipitated many frantic international phone calls to London. Maybe our news department was trying to give us an Israeli version of *Not the Nine O'Clock News*. A great deal of this review has been about problems of comprehension. I have no difficulty understanding *Not the Nine O'Clock News*, but I wonder more than ever how people unfamiliar with Merrie England are coping with it. The take-offs of the Royal Family and the Thatcher are clear enough, but many of the other skits require one to have watched the BBC fairly often. For instance, there are the side-splitting advertisements, particularly the one for Batchelor's Boiling Oil. I suppose that, during the era of the second New Economic Policy (that of Yoram), every Israeli who owned a TV set did get to England.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	4:04 p.m.	5:20 p.m.
Tel Aviv	4:22 p.m.	5:38 p.m.
Haifa	4:12 p.m.	5:28 p.m.
Bnei Brak	4:20 p.m.	5:36 p.m.
Eilat	4:23 p.m.	5:35 p.m.
Tora Portion: Shema		

JERUSALEM
JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 4:15, Shabbat Shabbat 8, Mincha 4:30, Maariv 5:15, Cantor Naftali Herzig and the Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir, under the direction of Eli Jaffe.
YESHU'RU'N JERUSALEM CENTRAL SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 4:25, Shabbat Shabbat 8, Mincha 4:45, 4:10, Maariv 5:20, HAZAN: ASHER HAINOVITZ.
WORLD COUNCIL OF SYNAGOGUES, Conservative, 4 Agon, Friday, Mincha 4:25, Shabbat 8:15, Dvar Torah: Rabbi Dr. Yosef Green, Hazan: Dov Kaplan.
Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, 13 King David St., Saturday morning service at 10 a.m. (Reform).
Har-Ez Synagogue (Progressive) 16 Shmuel Weinberg, Tel Aviv, Friday, 5:30 p.m. Shabbat morning 9:30 a.m., Rabbi Tuvia Ben-Horin.
Italian Synagogue at Museum of Italian Art, 27 Rehov Hallel, Mincha, Friday, 3:30 p.m., after candle lighting, Shabbat, Shabbat 8 a.m.

TEL AVIV
Great Synagogue, Tel Aviv, 110 Allenby Rd. Services conducted by Tel Aviv Chief Rabbi Y.Y. Frenkel, Shabbat by Synagogue President Abraham Hatzron before Kabbalat Shabbat, Rosh Hodesh, Shabbat morning, after prayer (Haddash and) Gemara shur, Mincha 4:40, Shabbat 8:00.

HAIFA
Eliaz Church, 43 Meir St., Tel. 04-535981, 515019, Christian services, Dec. 24 at 6 p.m. (Hebrew, English, Rumanian), Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. (Scandinavian) Christmas Concert, Dec. 27 at 7:30 p.m., by the Singers of Praise.
Beit-Hadash Messianic Assembly (Local Israel), 59 Allenby Street, Saturday meeting 5 p.m. Bible Study: Wednesday 8 p.m.

OTHER CENTRES
Baptist Village Congregation, 2 km. north of Petah Tikva, Saturday services, Bible study 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Tel. 052-32832.
THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS (MORMON CONGREGATIONS)
Jerusalem: 58 Nabulus Road (next to the Ambassador Hotel) Tel. 02-815294. Tel Aviv: 27 Shevet Menashe St., Herzliya, 052-550913.
Gallilee: 15 Shlomo Hamelech St. Tiberias 067-92260. Worship Services each Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12.

CHRISTIAN
JERUSALEM
Redeemer Church (Lutheran) Munster Rd. Old City, Jerusalem, Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. (Tel. 202543, 289211).
Christ Church (Anglican) opp. Citadel, 8 a.m. Holy Communion, 9:30 a.m. Family service, 6:45 p.m. Evening service.
Baptist Congregation 4 Narkis, West Jerusalem, Saturday service, Bible study: 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Tel. 283964.
St. Andrew's Church of Scotland, near Railway Station, Sunday Morning service, 10 a.m.
Pentecostal Worship Service, Mt. Zion Fellowship, 7:30 p.m. Fri., Sat., Sun., Tel. 283964, Nazareth, 23 Nabulus, Sun. 10:11, Sun. Wed 5:30

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
Jerusalem: Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 523191, Balsam, Salah Eddin, 273315, Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108, Dar Eldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Yehuda Hamaccabi, 42 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 455198, Sde Dov, 3 Hauser, 28510.
Petah Tikva: Kupat Holim Clalit, Haim Ozer St., 905271.
Netanya: Karmel, Kiryat Nordau, 51774.
Haifa: Nordau, 13 Nordau, 664039, Segel, 53 Ha'atzman, K. Aia, 441280.

SATURDAY
Jerusalem: (day) Armon Hanatzy, 23 Dov Gruner (Talpaia Commercial Centre), 710400, (evening) Kupat Holim Clalit, Romema, 523191, Balsam, Salah Eddin, 273315, Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108.
Tel Aviv: (day) Yehuda Hamaccabi, 42 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 455198, Sde Dov, 3 Hauser, 28510, (evening) Yehuda Hamaccabi, 42 Yehuda Hamaccabi, 455198, Sde Dov, 3 Hauser, 28510.
Petah Tikva: Kupat Holim Clalit, Haim Ozer St., 905271.
Netanya: Hama, 82 Petah Tikva, 40967.
Haifa: Hanita, 22 Hanita, 231905, Nitzan, Kikar Nitzan, K. Yam, 751680.

DENTAL
Tel Aviv: 49 Bar Kochba St., Friday: 6 p.m. to midnight, Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Tel. 02-284649.
Haifa: Sunday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 251993, Monday: 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Tel. 520313, Tuesday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 230985, Wednesday: 8 p.m.-10 p.m. Tel. 520313, Thursday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 230985, Friday: 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Tel. 525293, Shabbat: 8 a.m.-10 a.m. Tel. 251993, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. 532943.
Netanya: 24 hours a day — Tel. 053-40883.

DUTY HOSPITALS
Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, internal, ophthalmology), Bikur Holim

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Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 924444, Kiryat Shmona 4444.

TWO-IN-ONE CROSSWORD

Use the same diagram for either the Cryptic or the Easy puzzle.

Cryptic

ACROSS

- Gets money, changing this in a letter! (6, 5)
- Cries, coming out of the torture-chamber (7)
- Tried to stop one playing taggy (7)
- Decided being taken between airports! (5)
- We feel it will arouse great public interest and excitement (8)
- Has confidence in how the head drives (7)
- In America, a sign advertising "On the Beach"; but it's out! (7)
- Dog goes up on sailing ship, if on foot first (7)
- Caused pain in flesh between the fingers (7)
- The end of his violent career to bring political change (8)
- Goes straight down to the beach at Dover (5)
- In order to keep them, locks fastened all round! (4,5)
- Put down what's in store for you! (7)
- Found it hard to listen, people using such amplifiers (5,8)

DOWN

- Place for Speakers of the House? (7)
- Being old-fashioned, loves this lad (5)
- The chief—how he helps his subordinate (7)
- Runs away from home just for fun! (7)
- What the boss says will be correspondence from his secretary (9)
- Moving the stock in trade of the railway company (7)
- Rubber meeting a special abrasive light! (6,5)
- Author to rewrite file on dead one? No, omits it (6, 5)
- Hull, with all its dockyard accoutrements, belongs to him (4,5)
- Something threatening your life? So, come out quick! (7)
- Battered one to waste his money (7)
- Opt out, having cracked up after wartime conference here (7)
- Will had her name down for "Great Expectations" when she'd finished "Hard Times," per'aps! (7)
- Trees not taking up much space! (5)

'Quickie'

ACROSS

- Opera by Britten (5, 6)
- Order a player from the field (4, 3)
- Small fraction of time (7)
- Ties up a boat (5)
- Say again and again (8)
- Specimen (7)
- For shredding food (7)
- Decorated an interior wall (7)
- Give cover to (7)
- Smoked by Red Indians (5,4)
- Surrounds a picture (5)
- Coal holder (7)
- Bird (7)
- Not main thoroughfares (4, 7)

DOWN

- Figure of mythology (7)
- Moves faster than a walk (5)
- Keeps order at sports (7)
- A fencing material (7)
- Act badly (8)
- A route for shipping (3,4)
- Famous diarist (6, 5)
- Treats diseased wood (4,7)

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THE CIVIL ADMINISTRATION, JUDEA AND SAMARIA

Officer in charge of Religious Affairs

The Civil Administration of Judea and Samaria wishes to bring to the attention of the public the fact that:

Carrying and drinking of alcoholic beverages will be forbidden in Manger Square and the immediate vicinity throughout Christmas Eve and Christmas morning (December 24-25, 1983).

The Civil Administration asks the public for its cooperation in this matter, and requests that all visitors to Bethlehem conduct themselves in a manner befitting the sanctity of the holy day, and that they respect the sensibilities of those that come to worship in Bethlehem.

The Head of the Civil Administration in Judea and Samaria and his staff extend their

Best Wishes to the Christian Community

in Judea and Samaria on the occasion of Christmas.

Shlomo Ilya, Brig. General
Head of the Civil Administration

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SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT

Once again, a wonderful weekend of wily wordplay — January 19-21 at the Galei Kinnereth Hotel in Tiberias. Israel's Scrabble enthusiasts will be brought together for a fourth time, for the camaraderie and the excitement of spirited competition, in a professionally organized tournament.

You don't have to be a word-whiz — there will be two divisions of players, Advanced and Casual.

Register NOW — space is limited, time is short. Call or write the Galei Kinnereth Hotel, Tiberias 14100 Tel. 067-92331.

Tournament co-sponsored by The Jerusalem Post, the Israel Scrabble Association and The Galei Kinnereth Hotel.

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Tel: 02-227111

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Get together to greet 1984!
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In Tel Aviv Thursday, Jan. 5 7:00 p.m.
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HALUACH HEHADASH - Classified Advertisements in cooperation with MA'ARIV-HA'ARETZ-HA'IR-KOL HA'IR.

All classified advertisements for Friday submitted to Haluach Hehadash head office by 5 p.m. Thursday preceding publication appear in this section.



Mortgage

Mortgages for young couples, new immigrants, inhabitants of developing areas and contractor clients (also eligibility certificates). Binayon Mortgage Bank Ltd. 18 Rehov Mikve Yisrael, Tel Aviv. 03-623303.

Contractors

Tel Alonim builds in Ramat Hasharon, 43272, 47069, Sunday-Thursday.
Tzvi Alonim builds in Kfar Sava, on Rehov Tel Hai, flats and penthouses starting at \$67,000 including terms: \$15,000 on registration, \$500,000 mortgage, the balance in 15 payments. For details, 75 Sokolov, Ramat Hasharon, 48272, 47069, Sunday-Thursday.

Best Bank, on Shabat, 47,000, 4, penthouse, 60,000, 03-49884, 03-70490.
Kfar Sava, sale of Shav Gimmel has begun, 4 room flats in S.A.P.'s prestigious neighborhood. Rehov Tel Hai - Ben Gurion - Hehalutz. Details: S.A.P., 64 Sokolov, Holon. 03-588488.

Tzvi Hasharon, spacious flats, convenient terms, mortgages, 03-21419, 03-235764.
Rishon LeZion, 3 1/2 and 4 rooms starting at \$50,000, convenient terms. 91143.
Keret is building in Givatayim, Givat Hakarem (parcel 9), huge, prestigious flats, 4-5 rooms and roof flats. Office: 30 Ben Gurion, Tel Aviv. 03-27455-6-7-8, 03-30-1700.

Keret is building in Ramat Gan, 4 and 4 1/2 room flats and penthouses. Office: 30 Ben Gurion, Tel Aviv. 03-27455-6-7-8, 03-30-1700.
Caesarea, spacious villa for sale, under construction. Tel: 03-410582, not Shabat.

Villas & Houses

Ramana, for sale, row cottage, 3 levels, corner, 6 rooms, 03-26239.
Furnished villa in Netanya area, rental for 10 months. 03-90477.
Savoyon, 2 1/2 dunam + small villa, \$275,000, exclusive to Centre Realty, 751425.
Neva Ramon, monthly rental, furnished villa in Netanya area, phone: 03-734752.
Alfer Menashe, cottage, 6, corner, mortgage possible, 105,000, 03-756768.

Holon, roof flat (penthouse) for sale, 7 rooms, area of flat including balconies 300sq.m., for serious only. Tel: 848467, work: 429498, home: 429499.
Tel. Kfar Shmaryahu, 3, 5 room villa, phone: 03-26762, 03-25292.
Hertziya Hatzitza, cottages under construction by Keret. Office: 30 Ben Gurion, Tel Aviv. 03-27455-6-7-8, 03-30-1700.

Caesarea, spacious villa for sale, under construction. Tel: 03-410582, not Shabat.
Tel Aviv Yaffo

Flats for Sale
2-2 1/2 ROOMS
U Sharet, 2 1/2 large, rear, 4th floor, 45,000, including parking, \$10,000, 458519, from 18.00.
Near Malchei Yisrael, Dizengoff, 3rd floor, 2 quiet locations, for elderly couple and single, 03-922577.

3. Park Hayaron + furniture, extra, 75sq.m., 70,000, 03-222373, 03-249162.
Nir - 3 1/2, dinnette, spacious, 03-459717, evenings.
Flat for sale, 3 rooms, immediate occupancy, fitted cupboards, kitchen cupboards, 6 Rehov Naharyon, near Zaha, 47303, 03-499042.
Ramat Aviv and Ramat Aviv Gimmel, urgent! 3 1/2, Eilat, 421967, 427342.

Bavli, well arranged roof flat, 3 1/2 + half on tiled roof, lift, permanent pergola, heating, parking, phone, 03-446555.
4 ROOMS & MORE
Ramat Zohara, 4 + 2 1/2 sq.m. yard, tiled roof, Office: 03-863071, afternoons.

Techinim Lamed, luxury flat, 5, 2nd floor, lift, heating, 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, etc. Exchange for Jerusalem flat possible, 03-10976, from 15,000.
Ramat Aviv Gimmel, 5, 15sq.m., in prestigious project, 03-220522.
Bargain! Park Hayaron, 3 and 5 + roof, luxurious, 03-220952.

Flats for Rent
1/2 room flat in north, quiet, phone, partially furnished, 03-294745.
Kfar Shalom, 2 1/2 rooms, complete, furnished, phone, 830893, 03-74792.
For monthly rental, 3 + balcony + phone, on Ben Yehuda, 623536, not Shabat.

2 1/2 rooms, suitable for doctor/dentist clinic, on detech Hashalom ground floor, 150, 033-96530.
Keymoney
Large and quiet room + kitchen and shared conveniences, \$77.00, 614897.
Shehmat Hanika, key money, one room flat + kitchen and conveniences, \$81,480.

Furnished Flats
Emek Habracha, 3, furnished, phone, \$300, 03-21910, 03-471221.
North, 2 1/2 rooms + phone, one year in advance, 03-238711.
Detech Hashalom, 2 1/2 rooms, suitable for couple, 150, ground floor, 033-96530.
Furnished Rooms
Beautiful room in Yad Eliyahu, in home of doctor's widow, for woman, 03-341506.

Flats Wanted
Free service for rental flat owners. Amir P. 03-1476, 03-457259.

Flats for Rent

Ramatayim, 3, 4th floor, furnished, 51,000, 03-44037, 03-39008.

Southern Region

Flats for Sale
3-3 1/2 ROOMS
Rishon LeZion, Many Shohet, 3, 4th floor, lift, well arranged, 03-957830, 03-948839.

Flats for Rent
Rishon LeZion, Gmei Yehudit, 3 rooms, furnished + phone, 443345.
Rishon LeZion, Abramowitz, 3 1/2, phone, lift, parking, immediate, 03-246031.

Vehicles
380 S, 1969, engine, new spray, extra, 03-797335.
380, 1971, American model, automatic, electric roof, 782280.
280 S 1971, all extras, first owner, excellent, 11,000, 03-342789.

Cars for Sale
For sale, Daihatsu 1000, automatic, Call Koppel Self Driving, Yair, 03-297264.
1975, 230 cc, automatic, first owner, 054-36341, 03-25078, 4 work.

ALFA ROMEO
Alfa Romeo 1978, well kept, best condition, 03-555777, 03-78082.
AUDI
Audi 80, 1975, excellently kept, 77,000km, 03-25198.

AUTOBIANCHI
Autobianchi for sale, Call Koppel Self Driving, Yair, 03-297264.
Autobianchi 903, 1977, first owner, excellent condition, 37,000km, 1536500, 03-410474.

B.M.W.
Technical manager, electronics, communications, engineering/practical engineer, 03-454277, 03-454278.
Mechanical and/or electronics draughtsman; computer draughtsman, long term, highly paid, hourly rate, Tigbur, 297840.

Flats for Sale
1-1 1/2 ROOMS
Furnished one room flat, Meri, Givatayim, 419185, \$40,000.
2-2 1/2 ROOMS
Bargain, Ramat Gan, 2 large, fitted cupboard, immediate, 731733.

3-3 1/2 ROOMS
Petal Tikva, 3 + 1/2, 3rd floor, no lift, 104sq.m., extra, 03-923394.
Petal Tikva, 3, 3rd floor, 3 rooms + 1/2, 03-257374-5, 03-28433.

4 ROOMS & MORE
Kfar Ganim, 4, new, 3rd floor, lift, 85,000, immediate, 03-731733.
Kfar Gan, 4, large, luxurious, fireplace, kitchen, airconditioned, 03-756768.
Keret is building in Ramat Gan, 4, 4 1/2 and penthouses. Office: 30 Ben Gurion, Tel Aviv. 03-27455-6-7-8, 03-30-1700.

Flats for Rent
Petal Tikva, 4 new, double conveniences, good area, 03-731630.
Furnished Flats
Ramat Gan, 3 room flat, phone, 776336, not Shabat.

Flats Wanted
Seeking small flat for couple, monthly rental, Bnei Brak and vicinity, 03-395119.

LANCIA
Lancia Beta 1400, 1975, 137,000km, 03-362522.
Lancia Trevi 1983, automatic, power steering, 50,000km, 03-471027.

LORRIES
2 Mack F Single 1980 supporting tons, Galil Eylon Cooperative, 067-40711-3.
MERCEDES
Mercedes 450, beautiful, like sports car, airconditioner, \$25,000, 724611.

4 ROOMS & MORE
Ramatana, 4 rooms only 568,000 inclusive, Anglo-Saxon, 032-30663, 032-32338.
Ramatana, 4 + tiled roof, room on roof, double conveniences, lift, parking, 032-442928.

Cars for Sale
Peugeot 204 station 1974, test, tyres, 812777, weekdays.
Opel Rekord station automatic, 1974, excellent, 03-532070, weekdays.
Volksvagen commercial, double cabin, 1972, 30,000km, 02-661763, 032,000.

Peugeot 104, 71, 1124 engine, good condition, 818082.
Audi 100, 1972, automatic, good condition, 03-66433, weekdays evenings.
Simea 1000, 1972, 1,100, 12-4 Idelson, Mount Scopus, evenings.
BMW 520, 1973, excellent condition, 02-819645, 02-817896, work.

Flats for Rent
Rishon LeZion, 4 + 1/2, dinnette, 130q.m., 1st floor, balconies, 03-952243.
Rishon LeZion, 4 + 1/2, dinnette, 130q.m., 1st floor, balconies, 03-952243.

Flats for Rent
Rishon LeZion, Gmei Yehudit, 3 rooms, furnished + phone, 443345.
Rishon LeZion, Abramowitz, 3 1/2, phone, lift, parking, immediate, 03-246031.

For Sale
380 S, 1969, engine, new spray, extra, 03-797335.
380, 1971, American model, automatic, electric roof, 782280.
280 S 1971, all extras, first owner, excellent, 11,000, 03-342789.

ALFA ROMEO
Alfa Romeo 1978, well kept, best condition, 03-555777, 03-78082.
AUDI
Audi 80, 1975, excellently kept, 77,000km, 03-25198.

AUTOBIANCHI
Autobianchi for sale, Call Koppel Self Driving, Yair, 03-297264.
Autobianchi 903, 1977, first owner, excellent condition, 37,000km, 1536500, 03-410474.

B.M.W.
Technical manager, electronics, communications, engineering/practical engineer, 03-454277, 03-454278.
Mechanical and/or electronics draughtsman; computer draughtsman, long term, highly paid, hourly rate, Tigbur, 297840.

Flats for Sale
1-1 1/2 ROOMS
Furnished one room flat, Meri, Givatayim, 419185, \$40,000.
2-2 1/2 ROOMS
Bargain, Ramat Gan, 2 large, fitted cupboard, immediate, 731733.

3-3 1/2 ROOMS
Petal Tikva, 3 + 1/2, 3rd floor, no lift, 104sq.m., extra, 03-923394.
Petal Tikva, 3, 3rd floor, 3 rooms + 1/2, 03-257374-5, 03-28433.

4 ROOMS & MORE
Kfar Ganim, 4, new, 3rd floor, lift, 85,000, immediate, 03-731733.
Kfar Gan, 4, large, luxurious, fireplace, kitchen, airconditioned, 03-756768.
Keret is building in Ramat Gan, 4, 4 1/2 and penthouses. Office: 30 Ben Gurion, Tel Aviv. 03-27455-6-7-8, 03-30-1700.

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Ramatana, 4 rooms only 568,000 inclusive, Anglo-Saxon, 032-30663, 032-32338.
Ramatana, 4 + tiled roof, room on roof, double conveniences, lift, parking, 032-442928.

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Rishon LeZion, Abramowitz, 3 1/2, phone, lift, parking, immediate, 03-246031.

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Rishon LeZion, Abramowitz, 3 1/2, phone, lift, parking, immediate, 03-246031.

Experienced bookkeeper accepts work at home, 392337.
High school graduate, trained programmer, quick learner, 336106-7-8, Yair.
Experienced secretary typist for 3 months job, from January, 03-453571.
Excellent IBM Hebrew-English typist, experienced, responsible work, 03-399414, not Shabat.
Seeking afternoon work, twice weekly, 338624.

English secretary typist seeking part time work at home, 599066, weekdays.
Qualified gardener does development, maintenance in various places, 03-397468.
Translators from Hebrew to English, and vice versa, typing, 283001, 242036.
Experienced attendant for elderly, references, Hebrew/English, 03-239262, mornings.

Business
BUSINESS
Tenders for contractors, suppliers, wholesalers, 7 Derech Patah Tikva, Tel Aviv, 03-612162.
Video imports! Company abroad willing to buy new video recorders all types, reasonable prices, Call immediately, 03-40988, Sadel Ltd.
Active office in Jerusalem with experience in sales - excellent staff seeks serious sales and marketing offers, any field, Mr. Tzvi, P.O.B. 10056 Jerusalem, 03-71692.

Plots
Binyamina, for sale, large area, suitable for building cottages, Tel: 03-450939.
Hod Hasharon, number of plots for immediate building - building licence and building fund for 2 units, \$47,000 per cottage unit, Rehov Henrietta Szold, corner Hagafen (end of Eshel Habanani, left, sign on site), Avneron, 03-29576, 03-33425, home, 03-42347.

Loans
For self-employed, companies, for loans without bank guarantees, 03-237820.
For self-employed, companies, for loans without bank guarantees, 03-237820.

As classified advertisements for Friday submitted to Hahush Hahadeah head office by 5 p.m. Thursday preceding publication appear in this section.

children's Wear shop, available in
Mikar Denya, for serious. 02-533033,
76502.

URGENT! Minimarket for rent in Gila,
Elchov Yezai. 724706, Avraham.

Returned cheques and debts col-
lected quickly! Special Operations
company. 02-765975.

IMMEDIATE! Active restaurant for
sale, city centre. 02-248090, 16.00-
17.00.

PURCHASE/SALE

For Sale

Due to departure, Danish furniture, pair of sofas, dining-room table with extension boards, 6 chairs, 2 armchairs, folding bed, 02-711444.

Minolta 300 photocopying machine, only \$500 + VAT, 02-527495.

Shidino, collapsible moped, new, excellent, \$700, 02-527495.

Bazaar, clothes, decorations, furniture, etc. from Brazil and USA, 02-666979.

BUSINESS

financing for
exporters/importers, minimum
\$50,000, only established and
serious. P.O.B. 246, McVassaret
St., New York, N.Y. 10013

Plots

Schools Lessons
Qualified piano teacher for children
and adults, reasonable prices.

3 rooms, north Tel Aviv, 5th floor,
inf. phone, 03-481304.

Ben Gurion, 3 rooms, 2nd floor,
without phone, unfurnished, 03-
999727.

A Luria, opposite Cisl Building,
phone, on pillars, 03-288738.

Migdalei David Hamelech, 4 lux-
urious, phone, 000, 03-414082.

Migdalei David Hamelech, 4 rooms,
new, phone, 052-70212.

Ramat Aviv, ths, 4, 3 rooms, from
000, 000, 03-455641.

Southern Region

.....
Plots for Sale

PEL

Consa 1983 CL, Lux, silver
Lalic. 03-286448, 052-33085.

Kord 1700, 1971, overhaul.
enings: 057-36962, daytime: 057-
91. Shosh.

Kord station 1973, overhaul,
omatic, 285.000, Office: 052-
339.

Kel Kadet 1984, new, automatic.
851.

remin Accoss Berlina 1983, ex-

with/own phone. 03-338766, work hours.
North Tel Aviv, 2 on pillars, phone.
260, Kaufman Realty, 03-265484.
2 North 2 furnished, phone, 300.
Canadian International, 03-286222-803.
Rafael Savion, 3 + phone, new, near
Sara Han and Tel Hashomer, 315131.
Rami Massaryk, 3 + phone, aircon-
ditioned cupboards, 340, 03-234676,
03-466932.
Near Dizengoff Centre, quiet street,
3rd floor, fitted up cupboards,
phone, 03-280794, not Shabbat.
North Tel Aviv, 3 phone, possibly
or office, 03-228007, Zipporah.

Keymoney

Wanted 2 keymoney flats from 1-3

—3½ ROOMS

Abraham Lezion, Abramowitz, 3½, 3rd
floor, spacious, parking, solar
water. 03-998791.

—4 ROOMS

Abraham Lezion, Hagdud Havri, 3½,
well arranged, convenient bus ser-
vices. Anglo-Saxon, 994262.

—4 ROOMS

Lezhovai and Nes Ziona, Avraham
and Sons offer you 3, 4 rooms flims.
second hand bed, unprecedented prices.
from \$43,000, suitable for young
families.

EL Kadett SR 1600, 1982, one owner, 456110, work.
EL Kadett 1700, station, 1978, automatic, airconditioner, one owner, 1952-21534.
EL Opel 1300, automatic, J. 84, in stock, 696969, 664633.
EL Opel Kadett, 1982, 8000, one owner, from motor, radio, alarm, 83-892187.
EL Opel Kadett, 1980, automatic, 1300 cc, station, 827863, 874856.

EUGOT
EL Opel 1700, automatic, airconditioner, excellent well kept, 054-227057.
EL Opel 1700, station, general repairs, 051-22452, 054-76735.
EL Opel 1700, station, 1971, best, excellent condition, Tel. 03-938885.
EL Opel 303, one owner, 1981.

North, 2 furnished, 3300. Tel. 03-252891, 03-22851.

Cars for Sale

1971 Daihatsu 1000, 83, 5 gears, airconditioner. 900,000. 052-551708.

1971 Daihatsu, 2 cars. 1) GMC, 1977 van; 2) Opel Rekord, automatic, 1972 (to be seen at Kibbutz Kfar Azza. D.N. 051-998111, 051-997111, 051-998111, ap-051-998111).

1981, one owner, radio tape, 10,000 km. 055-21852.

304, 1982, excellent condition, reg. 065-40615, evenings: 065-52.

Project station, 305, 1983, 10,000 km. tape. Tel. 053-70212.

4 GL, 45,000, like new, Tel. 0091, Friday: 731002, Saturday: 0091, 204, and 1968, year test. 2311, not Shabbat.

1971, automatic, radio, airconditioner, 47,000 km. general spray, at test. Tel. 03-622054.

CHEVROLET

1981, 5, 82, one owner, 18,000 km., reg. 03-781510.

1981, 12, 1973, lovely, well-maintained, 03-902002, 03-

Utilities room, fully furnished,
phone: 03-441342.
North! Luxurious penthouse, com-
plete, phone, for serious! 03-219548,
03-418812.
North, 3, furnished, phone, lift,
parking, for serious. 40069.
Pravdy, 2H, North Tel Aviv, phone,
456371.
Two minutes from Dizengoff, quiet
place, two adjacent and furnished
flats, 44 separate, together.
Tel. 41453, not Shabbat, 767794.
Halalinski corner Allosoroff, 2H, fur-
nished, 350, Tel. 03-257624.

Furnished Rooms

For tourists! North Tel Aviv, fur-
nished room, complete, phone, Tel.
49844.

FLA ROMEO

1975 Alfa Romeo 1.6, 1979, second owner.
\$10,000. air conditioner, radio tape.
Call 724-2218.

1982 Alfa Romeo 100, 1982, one owner, 26-
30000 mi. well kept, additions. 588578.

1983 Alfa Romeo 100, 1983, guarantee, additions.
Call 724-2218. 03-802006.

UDI

1972 Audi 75, 1972, well kept.
Call 130,000. 03-598414.

1974 Audi 80 LS, automatic, 1974. 04-
24587-5.

1971 Audi 75, 1971. Work: 130626, home:
599332.

1978 Audi 100, 1978, GLS, air conditioner.
Call 724-3332.

1975, 135,000km, test, excellent condition: 052-39174; not Shabbas.

1975, 1400, 1981, radio, 03-181, Sunday and Wednesday, 00-16.00, Amos.

1970, new engine, good condition. 4033.

1969, station, one owner, 1979. 2-20203; 054-236153, home.

1974, 4, 1974, after recondition of engine. 03-479501.

TRIUMPH

1970, 1800 cc, 1971, excellent condition, year test. 02-593017.

MAAB

1975, 18 TS 1982, 1650 engine, automatic, air conditioner. Work: 03-479501.

Flats Wanted
Tel Aviv. flats required. Monthly rent/keys/money/purchase. Dzyuron. 052-234123.
Required for purchase, north Tel Aviv, ground floor flat, phone. 052-66666.

...cellent condition. 054-2371180.
Radio 100, 1972, test, radio, original
owner. 03-417086.
...03-1001096.
...03-417086.
...radio, 1978, 2000, power
cetering, radio-tape, test. 03-255742;
York. 03-243045.
...00, automatic, 1977, second
owner. 99,000km. 04-532682.
...03, automatic, 1974, one ow-
ner, beautiful. 835668.

AUSTIN, MORRIS

...argain, 1971, pretty, well cared for,
daytime: 03-621595, evenings: 054-
36104.
...and 850, 1969, excellent condition.
at price. 03-919186.

B.M.W.

FORD
Ford 1967, 900 cc, 82, not Shabbat.
Small 9, 10, 900 cc, one owner, 9.
Dkm., metallic. 451521.

FORD
Ford 1000, 1973, full overhaul, ex-
tent. 03-768166, weekdays.

FORD
Ford station, 1400, 1973, first ow-
ner, bargain. 03-916731, office: 03-
8630.

FORD
Ford Custom 1979, 86,000km.,
1580,000, 03-997723.

FORD
Ford 1972, good condition + ex-
tent. Tel. 371175, evenings, not Shab-
b.

FORD
Ford, first owner, year test + radio,
new. 054-56331.

FORD
Ford 1296 cc, 1977, excellent

3—3½ ROOMS

Ramal Yusef, 3 + ½ + dinette, front-
tel, 4th floor, bedroom. CR-861561.

Sai Yam, 3, spacious, 5th floor + lift
CR-88967, CR-869018.

Holon, near Shoshanim, 3, 2nd
floor, solar boiler, beautiful. CR-
885522, CR-806597.

4 ROOMS & MORE

Holon, Tel-Giborim, 4½ rooms,
5th floor, \$38,000. Tel. 858371.

Lev Holon, 4, 110sq.m., 65,000 +
VAT, new. CR-846619.

Holon centre, 4, new, bargain. CR-
809939, at work, to Jackie

...cent condition. 03-855911.
 802 automatic, 1975, one owner,
 16,000, air conditioner, 650,000. 03-
 855912.
 1978, air conditioner, 85,000km
 52-529233, work hours.
 1976, one owner, air-
 conditioner, year test, 054-51766.
 18, end 1975, well kept, radio tape,
 8, 5,000, 03-91838.
 20 E. new, in port, tax-free, power
 steering, air conditioner, central
 locking system, silver metallic. 04-
 45763, 04-252798, 04-717342.
 18, May 1979, from school, extras,
 12,500. 867562.
 20, 1976, automatic, 2nd owner,
 16,000, air conditioner, 11,000,
 working. list price. 03-411411, 03-
 47444.

or sale, Subaru station, 1979, first and, well kept. 04-993614.

Mini R-2, 1973, excellent condition. 04-94602.

1900, 1982, like new, 17,000km. 04-993614.

Arguin, 054-225830.

Arguin, Subaru station, 1972, excellent mechanical condition. Tel. 04-9902.

Arguin, 2,000,000 spare parts, camshaft, 1973, excellent. Subaru engines from imports. 1400, 1600, fully disassembling and assembly on sand yard, registered Subaru garage. (excluding VAT). 26 Haimesger. Tel. 04-993614.

Arguin, 1972, 117,000, full overhaul. 04-993614.

Arguin, 2520,000, Tel. 7225454.

Arguin, 1977, one owner, good condition, year test, 157,000km. Tel. 02-999917, 02-694324.

Flats for Rent

Bat Yam, Rehov Razeil, Ramat
Hassani, 3 phone, Tel. 841345.

Centre Holon, 3 room flat for rent.
884439, evenings.

Holon, Kiryat Shalom, 4, without
phone and furnishing. 03-806547, 03-
344755.

Furnished Flats

Holon centre, 2½ furnished, phone.
5200, 857882.

Villa, 2½, Givat Haaliya, border of
Bat Yam, near the sea. 425660.

Furnished Flats

COMMERCIAL CARS

Chevrolet 404 van, 1973. Tel. 431550.
from Sunday, for Yankov.

Ford Taurus 1 ton truck, 1983. 055-41188.

Mercedes 100, 1974, general overhaul, bat-
tery, 9227766.

Porsche 911, German, 1976, excellent
mechanically, must be sold. 03-
71292.

Suzuki Biber, 1987, good condi-
tion, 055-174, 063.

1136, home; 055-82308, work.
 W.L. 1973, coupe 1400, test, well
 kept, excellent. 03-23861.

BUSSITA, CARMEL
 Buessita station, 1973, excellent
 mechanically, new spray, 448417.
 Buessita Box, 66, Ford engine,
 travelling condition, dirt cheap. 03-
 92438.
 Carmel Durac, 1970, after recon-
 ditioning, excellent. Tel. 04-993774.

U.S. CARS
 Rambler Chibbin 1974, V-8 engine,
 in working order, automatic.
 57-51824, not Shabbat.
 James A. cvladars 1987, 44,000

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y St.
806
oshavot)

St.
a'carmel
645333

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CHRISTIAN COMMENT/Oikoumenikos

Guaranteed bank shares revive

TEL AVIV. — The Treasury-guaranteed bank shares, whose prices have fallen continuously for nearly a fortnight, finally showed signs yesterday that they may be reviving. Mizrahi bearer shares led the rises with an advance of 6.4 per cent. Hapoalim pref. gained 5.7 per cent, while IDB was a 3.3 per cent riser. The Hapoalim registered shares and Bank Leumi ordinary stock traded unchanged.

As it was, most of the action took place in the bank sector, as more than 70 per cent of the total turnover of IS367 million was in that group.

The index-linked bond market, by contrast, was lower in very active trading. Losses of up to three per cent were recorded in nearly all groups of bonds. Trading turnovers stood at IS1.4 billion, almost four times the turnover of equities.

While it was not possible to pinpoint the movement of funds, it is this that there was institutional selling in the bond market, with some of the proceeds being moved into the bank shares which are part of the agreement. This certainly would make financial sense, since the yields of some 20 per cent in short-term bonds, the bank shares look mighty appealing.

While the bank shares were mostly frolicking, the shekel was having a bad time, as it was devalued by no less than 112 agorot against the dollar.

The non-banking part of the share market pattered and sputtered but could not record a winning session. The General Share Index, banking shares excepted, was down by 0.89 per cent. Investment company issues were particularly weak, as they lost 2.39 per cent on a sectoral basis.

Volatility statistics clearly in-

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

dictated that the trend among shares was mostly lower. There were 10 "sellers only" situations, but only three issues managed to be "buyers only." Major losers whose prices fell by more than five per cent totalled 66, while gainers stood at 45.

Mortgage bank securities were slightly lower, as a generally mixed trend prevailed. Binyan was 8.2 per cent lower, while Independence Mortgage was 8.6 per cent slipped by nearly 10 per cent.

Specialized financial institution shares were slightly higher and were led by Clal Leasing 0.1, which sported a 9.9 per cent gain.

Insurance stocks trended lower. Hassneh was 7.1 per cent lower, while the option was clipped for a 27.6 per cent fall. Aryeh was a 10 per cent loser.

The service and trade securities group was nearly balanced between winners and losers. Harel I was up 10 per cent, while Yahalom Hotels declined by 9.8 per cent. Kopel was the "Sellers only" list, while its option was 16.7 per cent lower.

Land development, real estate and citrus plantation issues were on the down side. Oren was a 10 per cent loser, as was the case with Lumir 5. HLB Investments 0.5 was up by 10 per cent and was joined by Bayside 0.5. Property and Building, Bayside's parent, continued to see an erosion of its shares as it eased by 10 points.

Industrials had a winning session, even though the advance was only fractional, when viewed on a sec-

toral basis. Urdan 0.1 was a 10 per cent winner and was joined by the American Israeli Paper Mills shares. Elbit gained 0.3 per cent, while Elron traded unchanged. Delta-Galil posted a 9.7 per cent rise. Israel Can I was heavily pressured by sellers and the shares responded with a 10 per cent drop. The 5 shares could not be traded due to the influx of sell order and the issue was established as "sellers only" and automatically dropped five per cent.

Clal Electronics was 4.6 per cent higher. The company has a major stake in the Electronics Corporation of Israel, whose American shares have had a substantial run-up over the recent past.

The Dead Sea Works gave up three per cent of Wednesday's 10 per cent run-up. The company reported highly satisfactory earnings for the first six months of fiscal 1983/1984. Zika I performed poorly and absorbed a 15 per cent loss.

Investment company shares were sharply lower. IDB Development continued weak as it absorbed a nine per cent loss. The IDB Dev. option was hit by a 39.2 per cent fall. The Israel Corp. was among the few good movers, as its 5 shares were 10 per cent higher. Paz Investment fell by a similar amount. Ampa lost 9.4 per cent, while Discount Investments was unchanged. Oz Investments 0.5 was 9.6 per cent lower, but Piryon traded unchanged.

Oils were moderately lower.

\$1m. SHEETS — The plastics factory at Kibbutz Ginegar recently invested \$1m. on research devising new plastic sheet coverings for agriculture.

	Closing price	Volume ISL,000	Change	% change		Closing price	Volume ISL,000	Change	% change		Closing price	Volume ISL,000	Change	% change		Closing price	Volume ISL,000	Change	% change
Commercial Banks																			
IDB p.	73000	—	—	—	Bond Ware 0.5	187	328	+17	+10.0	Eftan	73	583	-8	-9.9	Cyclone 5	409	36	—	—
IDB p.	3150	935	+100	+3.3	Bond Ware op	84	270	+7	+8.1	Eftan op	39	384	-5	-11.4	Cyclone 1	215	48	-1	-0.4
IDB B r	3370	12	+120	+3.7	Yarden Hotel	161	81	+2	+1.3	Ackerstein 1	242	35	+12	+5.2	Cyclone op	94	60	+4	+5.0
IDB B r	18700	2	n.c.	—	Yarden Hotel op	57	81	n.c.	—	Ackerstein 5	180	50	+7	+4.1	Kedem Chem	194	43	—	—
IDB op 11	19300	89	n.c.	—	Yabalom	42	233	-9	-9.8	Arganum p	724	—	—	—	Kedem Chem op	96	—	—	—
Union 0.1	2300	257	+20	+4.9	Yabalom op	48	231	+9	+9.1	Arganum r	778	8	-6	-0.8	King 5	520	19	+20	+4.0
Discount Br	4110	58	+170	+4.3	Nikav 1.0	310	39	n.c.	—	Arganum op	1000	27	n.c.	—	King 10	188	130	96	+51.6
Discount A r	4110	58	+170	+4.3	Nikav 5.0	160	29	n.c.	—	Arganum op 1	1050	—	-30	-4.6	King op 1	175	—	—	—
Discount 2 r	4110	58	+170	+4.3	Nikav op 1	154	14	-16	-9.4	Ata B 1	184	127	+4	+2.0	King 10	164	47	-32	-19.3
Discount B cn	1002	64	+37	+8.0	Consort. Hold. 0.1	147	48	+4	+2.8	Ata C 0.1	75	736	-5	-0.7	Kil 5	301	48	n.c.	—
Mizrahi r	1330	1002	+60	+4.7	Consort. 0.5	70	14	n.c.	—	Tadir 1.0	292	23	+27	+10.2	Kil op 1	311	48	n.c.	—
Mizrahi b	1340	2	+80	+6.4	Consort. op A	68	55	-2	-3.6	Tadir 5.0	119	48	+18	+9.9	Kaz. Adler 1	802	83	n.c.	—
Mizrahi op 11	1990	37	+70	+3.7	Consort. op B	68	55	-2	-3.6	Barton 1	126	20	+11	+9.6	Kaz op 1	22	141	+7	+24.1
Mizrahi op 12	1100	760	79	+40	Kopel 1	261	s.o.1	-14	-5.1	Barton 5	53	23	-2	-3.6	Ron 0.1 r	445	2	+18	+4.2
Mizrahi op 13	1100	760	79	+40	Kopel op	150	16	-30	-16.7	Barton op	40	20	+3	+9.5	Ron 0.4 r	245	—	-4	-1.5
Mizrahi op 9	572	106	+12	+2.1	Crystal 1	136	162	n.c.	—	Gold Frost 1	190	54	+10	+5.6	Shafadot	215	—	-2	-0.9
Maritime 0.1	2590	699	+4	+1.6	Rapac 1	1050	45	+33	+3.1	Gold Frost 5	68	69	-2	-2.9	Schoellierins	396	58	+44	+10.0
Maritime 0.5	147	1415	n.c.	—	Rapac 0.5	1050	45	+33	+3.1	Gal Ind. 1	45	190	46	+6	Shemen p	1200	—	—	—
Hapoalim p	2090	4857	n.c.	—	Supersol 2	1291	3	+1	+0.1	Gal Ind. 10	530	66	-70	-10.0	T.A.T. 1	290	23	+24	+8.1
Hapoalim b	2170	236	+40	+1.8	Supersol B 10	450	79	-11	-2.4	Gal ind. op 1	421	7	n.c.	—	T.A.T. 5	100	30	+1	+0.5
Hapoalim cn	7100	6	+100	+1.3	Supersol B C	340	4	-1	-0.4	Gal Tech 1	115	113	+5	+4.6	T.A.T. op 1	300	37	0.6	—
					Team 1	911	4	+1	+0.1	Galil Tech p	73	99	+3	+5.0	T.G.L. 1	194	30	—	—
					Team op	565	14	n.c.	—						T.G.L. 5	170	5	+5	+4.8

Land, Real Estate, Citrus										Investment Companies										
General A	5295	22	n.c.	—	Oren	157	189	-17	-10.0	Dubek p	1401	7	n.c.	—	T.G.L. op	50	—	—	—	
General op 8	29300	—	—	—	Oren op 1	222	33	+22	+10.0	Dubek p b	1300	55	-10	-8	Tedes 1	462	—	24	+5.5	
General op 9	12300	—	+1000	+8.7	Azorin Prop.	156	178	+1	+0.7	Delta Galif 1	295	503	+26	+9.7	Tedes op	351	20	+11	+3.2	
General op 9	5216	4	n.c.	—	Azorin op D	123	59	+8	-6.1	Delta Galif 2	177	100	-8	-4.3	Taya	320	16	-10	-3.2	
General on 5	4000	—	—	—	Azorin op E	30	15	+8.5	—	Delta Gal. op 2	68	20	n.c.	—	Tel Aviv op 2	160	—	—	—	
Leumi 0,1	1320	5052	n.c.	+24	+9.9	Eilon	70	—	-1.0	Dafnon 1	137	167	+3	-2.3	Titul B r	151	167	n.c.	—	
Leumi op 13	736	+5	+3	—	—	Eilon op 1	32	106	-2	-5.9	Dafnon 5	94	46	-21.8	—	Fraser r	450	9	-10	-1.2
Leumi on 9	1815	78	+45	+2.5	—	Ammonit 1	2708	38	n.c.	—	Dexter Chem.	121	133	-7	-5.5	Lachish 1	366	1	+20	+5.6
Leumi on 11	596	807	n.c.	—	—	Ammonit op	109	154	+9	+9.0	Dexter op A	63	23	+7	+12.5	Lachish 5	285	—	—	—
ORH	1220	8	n.c.	—	—	Africa Isr. 0.1	1640	—	—	—	Fertilizer 0.1	588	115	-1	—	Lachish op	315	—	—	—
Finance Trade 1	1870	—	—	—	—	Africa Isr. 1.0	1510	1	n.c.	—	Fertilizer op	240	15	-10	-6.7	Regonia 1	170	10	+3	+2.4
Finance Trade 5	1045	1	-20	-1.9	—	Africa op 1.0	1075	150	-12.2	—	Cables 5	64	55	n.c.	—	Taro Pham.	150	37	-1	-8
Finance Tr. op	1600	—	—	—	—	Arazim	90	b.o.l.	+4	+4.7	United Spinners 1	125	30	+11	+9.7	—	—	—	—	
N. American 1	3247	14	n.c.	—	—	Arazim op	66	10	-5	-7.0	United Spinners 5	86	—	—	—	Unco r	357	44	-20	-5.3
N. American 2	1245	14	n.c.	—	—	Aradon op	—	—	+1	—	United S op 3	33	14	-2	-6.9	ILB Dev. r	1130	200	-190	-9.0
N. Am. op 1	1205	45	n.c.	—	—	Aradon 0.1	335	38	-1	-0.3	Hamasil 1	109	—	—	—	ILB Dev. op 2	307	307	198	-39.2
Danot 1	342	24	-16	-4.5	—	Aradon 0.5	126	70	-4	-3.1	Hamasil 5	149	8	-1	-1.2	Incoba 0.5	56	219	n.c.	—
Danot 5	100	860	n.c.	—	—	Ben Yakar 1	230	s.o.l	-12	-5.0	Hamasil op	130	9	-10	-7.1	Elgar b	1111	2	+101	+10.0
Danot sec 2	255	30	-16	-5.9	—	Ben Yakar op	105	—	+5	—	Hatchof 1	334	23	-2	-6	El-Rov 1	74	124	n.c.	—
Danot sec Int'l 5	273	633	-7	-2.5	—	Baranowitz 1	126	490	+1	+8	Hatchof 5	145	24	+2	+1.4	El-Rov 5	51	401	+3	+5.5
FIBI	260	714	n.c.	—	—	Baranowitz op	835808	n.c.	—	—	Vitalgo 1	108	22	-6	-5.3	Elern r	565	25	+30	+7.6
						Baranowitz op	61	28	+3	+5.2	Vitalgo 5	60	25	n.c.	—	Ellern b	439	17	-1	-0.2
						Dankner 1	102	50	n.c.	—	Wardison	195	138	n.c.	—	Afik 1	6500	—	-20	-6
						Drucker 1	190	364	-16	-7.8	Wardison op	90	50	-10	-10.0	Afik 5	4500	—	—	—
						Drucker op	46	30	—	+1.1	Zikh 1.0	409	138	-41	-9.1	Afik op	4100	—	-100	-2.5
						Darad 0.1	118	10	-1	-0.9	Zikh 5.0	67	436	-7	-9.5	Central Trade	434	20	-8	-1.8
						Darad 0.5	110	10	-1	-0.9	Saniakol 1	251	22	-2	-8	Israel Corp. 1	209	21	19	+9.0
						Darad 0.2	156	—	—	—	Saniakol 5	210	—	—	—	Israel Corp. 5	209	21	19	+9.0
						HLB 0.1	380	15	-14	-3.6	Saniakol op	472	—	—	—	Inf. Paz r	915	5	+102	+10.0
						HLB 0.5 r	110	50	+10	+9.0	Haman 1	135	70	-3	-2.2	Wolfson 1	1750	—	-90	-4.9
						Partners Bldg	1640	41	-10	-0.6	Haman op	177	545	-20	-10.0	Wolfson r	596	70	n.c.	—
						Bayad 0.1	1280	25	+61	+5.0	Is Can Corp 1	195	s.o.l	-10	-4.9	Ampa r	500	64	-12	-2.3
						Bayside 0.5	1043	24	+95	+9.0	Pr-Ze 1	198	18	-4	-2.0	Ampa op 1	435	16	+45	+9.4
						Bayside op B	1098	1	-120	-10.0	Pr-Ze 5	120	47	-3	-2.4	Disc. Invest. r	1730	202	n.c.	—
						ILDC r	998	10	-2	-0.2	Pr-Ze op	61	38	-9	-12.9	Disc. Invest. b	1800	—	—	—
						ILDC B	1020	10	—	—	Sidom Metal	129	616	-5	-4.1	Disc. deb. 135	—	—	—	—
						ICP 1	124	110	n.c.	—	Sidom Metal op	60	15	-7	-0.1	Hapal. Inv. r	7600	34	-140	-4.0
						ICP 0.5	227	341	+2	+0.7	Hatchof 2	700	92	30	+4.1	—	—	—	—	

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FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES				FOR 23.12.83	
COUNTRY	CURRENCY	CHEQUES AND TRANSACTIONS		BANKNOTES	
		PURCHASE	SALE	PURCHASE	SALE
U.S.A.	DOLLAR	1	103.3507 104.3894	102.3100	105.9500
GREAT BRITAIN	STERLING	1	147.1403 148.6192	145.6500	150.8400
GERMANY	MARK	1	37.3268 37.7020	36.9500	38.2700
FRANCE	FRANC	1	12.2236 12.3465	11.6700	12.5300
HOLLAND	GULDEN	1	33.2210 33.5549	32.8800	34.0600
SWITZERLAND	FRANC	1	46.8179 47.2885	46.3400	48.0000
SWEDEN	KRONA	1	12.7609 12.8892	12.4600	13.0800
NORWAY	KRONA	1	13.2382 13.3713	12.9300	13.5700
DENMARK	KRONA	1	10.3123 10.4160	10.0700	10.5700
FINLAND	MARK	1	17.5691 17.7458	17.1600	18.0100
CANADA	DOLLAR	1	82.7467 83.5784	81.2700	84.8300
AUSTRALIA	DOLLAR	1	92.5504 93.4301	88.2700	95.6800
SOUTH AFRICA	RAND	1	84.3334 85.1811	70.9600	90.0900
BELGIUM	FRANC	10	18.3245 18.5088	—	—
AUSTRIA	SCHILLING	10	52.9460 53.4782	52.4100	54.2800
ITALY	LIRE	1000	61.5182 62.1365	58.1500	63.0700
JAPAN	YEN	100	441.5753 446.0132	437.1200	452.6800

Ari Rath
Editor and
Managing DirectorTHE JERUSALEM
POSTErwin Frenkel
Editor

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Tevet 17, 5744 • Rabbi Awwal 17, 1404

Back to cash

BANKERS, the traditional guardians of financial prudence, sound business practices and other virtues, are commonly assumed to be endowed with an economic wisdom not accessible to other mortals.

From time to time the myth is rattled. This is what happened when some of the most important banks in the western world literally continued to beg near-bankrupt borrowing countries to go on taking loans from them, to the point where world-wide financial collapse could be averted only by massive government intervention. And this is what happened in Israel, too, ten weeks ago, when the house of cards built by the bankers' wisdom on the stock exchange collapsed, and the government had to bail them out. There were of course, losses all round, including to the banks themselves.

The banks now want to recoup some of these losses — by cutting down on the services they supply and raising their charges and commissions. This has prompted the discovery by the Commissioner of Restrictive Trade Practices and the Examiner of Banks that the banks may constitute a cartel.

What do the government agencies in charge of supervising the banks do about it? They have appointed a committee where, presumably, the matter will be buried for some time, until the storm blows over and the public gets used to the new charges to be levied by the banks. The committee may not give the banks all they want, but enough to maintain the tradition of gentle control by gentle persuasion, consent, and gentlemen's agreements according to which the central bank has always supervised the banks.

Specifically, what the banks now want is, for example, closure of their branches in the afternoons, so that only those people with time on their hands in the morning or those who can leave their workplace, would bother the bank clerks and managers — preferably, of course, with big transactions. On these, such as shekel deposits running into millions, the banks are now even prepared to raise their credit interest rates substantially.

The banks also want more standing orders and or more use of the automatic teller — services performed by the computers at near-zero cost, with the added advantage that the banks will hold on to more money for more time until they transfer it from payer to recipient.

For the little man, the interest to be paid on time deposits larger than, at the very least, IS\$5,000, is of little moment. He is much more concerned with the interest he will have to pay if he runs an overdraft — and that the banks want to raise to an astronomical level.

The little man will also have to think twice about the frequency with which he uses his bank account. A salary of, say, IS\$5,000 deposited by his employer on payday and spent over the month may involve some 30-40 transactions. With three or four standing orders, and, provided he remains in the black throughout the month, the use of his current account may easily cost him some IS\$2,000 a month. With an overdraft towards the end of the month, the cost will come to much more.

In a situation where the banks insist that financial services must be fully linked, on a current basis, while wages are linked only quarterly and partially, it might be a good idea indeed, as MK Ra'anan Naim has suggested, for wage earners and others to withdraw most of their salaries as soon as they are deposited in the bank, and make their current payments in cash.

Keeping cash under the mattress is risky. The use of banking services is safer and more convenient. But in real terms, the present average monthly salary is not much of an attraction for a real thief, and the risk may be worth taking. Easier tax evasion will be a by-product not intended by the banks.

Misplaced enthusiasm

THE KNESSET Finance Committee this week passed a measure that would slash 10 per cent from the wages of ministers and their deputies, directors-general and other top administrative officials, and judges. Such a measure was necessary, the finance minister explained, because his entire wage policy stands or falls by the personal example of senior representatives of the people.

Mr. Cohen-Orgad may have a point. Since the lax taxation of the country's affluent non-salaried echelons provides little incentive for the people at large to tighten their belts, perhaps it is senior office-holders who, by their example, should encourage all wage earners to accept a reduction in their standard of living. But if the wages of these office holders actually deserve to be cut by a full 10 per cent, then the suggestion seems to be that they are currently being paid too much.

Perhaps, then, the order of the day should be a wholesale revision of wage scales in the public service. In any case it is hard to see why judges, the guardians of the law, have been classified as "senior representatives of the people." Judges, in this country, as in any other democracy, constitute an independent branch that must not be confused with the legislature or the executive, who make policy and should, therefore, be expected to set examples.

Fortunately, the inclusion of judges in the Finance Committee package is not final. The decision was in fact only passed as a result of the absence of the NRP's Avraham Melamed, who is rightly opposed to the cutting of judges' salaries. Mr. Melamed's subsequent protest against the action taken behind his back was echoed in a remonstrance by the Israel Bar Association. This may force another vote and, hopefully, a different decision.

Rooting out the black money

By YOSEF GOELL

IT TOOK decades after the Depression for people like my wife and me — both Depression babies — to realize that not all Americans had been dirt poor during that traumatic decade. Indeed, a not-insignificant minority had in fact been living quite well, and even living it up.

My memory was jogged in this direction by the current dispute on economic developments in Israel in the past three months. The truth of the matter is that quite a number of Israelis are beginning to hurt as a result of the steps that followed upon the collapse of Yoram Aridor's "correct economics."

But "quite a number" is very far from "all." A significant minority of Israelis are not only not hurting, but are even taking advantage of new opportunities and are doing quite well, thank you. Hundreds of thousands may have lost their pants in the October collapse of the bank shares. But scores of thousands cleaned up by switching in time, and, illegally, to dollars.

All of this could perhaps be written off as a case of sour grapes on the part of a member of the hurting majority, were it not for the fact that no economic reform policy whose demands are not seen to be equitably distributed stands much of a chance of succeeding in Israel.

Minister of Finance Yigal Cohen-Orgad has by and large been saying the right things, from the point of view of economic sanity, during his first two months in office. His "Yigal-Hurwitz-with-a-smile" per-

formance, calling for economic belt-tightening, has gone over surprisingly well, with a minimum of opposition so far, both from his ministerial colleagues and from the broader public.

But it would seem that this lack of opposition has been almost entirely at the verbal level. When one looks at what has been done during this period, the unavoidable conclusion is that the burden of the stringencies being meted out by the Treasury is being borne primarily by those sections of the population that have been in no position to fight back... so far.

One can certainly not count among the victims the port workers who, after crippling the nation's exports for several weeks, are being paid off to stop their sabotage; nor the Electric Corporation employees, whose travel and other perks have been increased at the same time that those of civil servants are ostensibly being threatened with the axe; nor the country's leaders — the cabinet ministers, MKs and others who have assiduously feathered their nests in recent years.

LET ME narrow the focus of the point I want to make by taking issue with a colleague, Yitzhak Taub, who earlier this week on these pages regretted the fact that the Histadrut was not effectively protecting the vast majority of the salaried workers

whom its represents from the ravages of the new economic policies.

The trouble with this viewpoint is that it tends to ignore the fact that the population of Israel is mainly composed of a salaried middle class. If aggregate private consumption must be contracted as part of a much-needed reform of the economy, there is simply no way around the fact that this large group must participate in that contraction.

Where the problem lies in the area of mass psychology to which both Yoram Aridor and Cohen-Orgad claim to be sensitive. The majority of the population will simply not cooperate for long in a painful economic contraction if it does not see clear signs that the minority of hitherto impervious fat cats are being dealt with first.

And since the salaried middle class is totally organized, as well as constituting the bulk of an electorate to whom the political leadership must apply periodically for re-election, it will find the effective weapons for burying any policy which it opposes.

Cohen-Orgad's determination to erode real wages is basically correct and urgently needed. It will not work if the other publicly-pronounced elements of the new policy are not also seen by the majority of the population to be working.

A drastic cutting of the state budget which was pronounced to be an essential part of the new policy has so far proven to be largely a matter of bluff and bluster. Cohen-Orgad has so far not been any more successful than his hapless predecessor in getting his ministerial colleagues to take the situation seriously enough to agree to meaningful budgetary contractions within their own fiefdoms.

Of even more crucial importance has been the failure of the Treasury to give any sign of taking on the large black economy. It is variously estimated that between 25 and 30 per cent of the economy can be counted in that category, which is largely responsible for the bulk of both the tax evasion, and the conspicuous consumption in the country.

Cohen-Orgad is not the first finance minister to shy away from zeroing in on what should be the foremost target of a policy of contraction. The spiraling of the black economy began in the early 1970s with the refusal of the Ministry of Defence under Moshe Dayan to divulge to the Income Tax authorities the identities and incomes of the construction contractors who were building the ill-fated Bar-Lev line. Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir did not fight too hard to back up his own income tax people.

The process continued with reluctance of the Treasury, Labour's Yehoshua Rabinovitch implement the parts of the Shuhar income tax-reform programme of 1975 that were aimed at self-employed and other participants in the black economy.

It continues until this day. I find it complex law for taxation der conditions of inflation p through by the Aridor Treasury shown to contain a myr loopholes enabling a good p the business community to ev fair share of income tax pay.

Some may argue that Cohen-Orgad nor the government coalition of which he is part a political power to take on the of Israel society and its econo that is true, it would just be a way of saying that neither pos the political power to imple the unavoidably painful econ policy as a whole.

Cohen-Orgad has asked his dant, economics professor Sheshinsky, to prepare pro for a revamping of incom regulations to deal with problem, and he is expected to mit them by April.

But there is simply not enough for such slow-motion on this aspect of the new econ policy, which must be pu simultaneously with the rest of order to succeed. In all likeli the best that Cohen-Orgad e expected to pull off is a he operation. A real new econ policy will have to await the come of elections which giv party or another the political needed to implement it effect.

Waiting until November 19 hold such elections may well catastrophic for the economy, will have to come much sooner.

The writer is a member of Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

READERS' LETTERS

MODERN HELLENISM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — Moshe Kohn's article "Still burning issues" in the December issue of The Jerusalem Post was thought provoking and pertinent.

I found myself in agreement with much of what was said by Rabbis Gotthold, Cohen and Kapah.

In the case of the diaspora Jew, always a minority in the host country, the tendency to resist modern Hellenism is extremely difficult and we find too many Jews taking the path of least resistance with dismayed increases in intermarriage, conversion and simply being a Jew in name only.

However, what I find even more disturbing is what I see happening in Israel, Israel which was miraculously born again and where our Jewish people truly have the opportunity to make our prophetic dreams come to pass — to perhaps indeed be "A Light to the Nations" has opted instead to become a carbon copy of the United States and other western cultures — mimicking everything

that is materialistic, immoral and negative which they have to offer. The Torah is our holy book, our heritage, our history. It seems to me that its message should be the basis of our behaviour, guidelines and goals. Not the decadent lifestyles of modern western civilization. Washington D.C. HILDA KAPLIS

SPECIAL PRIVILEGES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — In a country where people sometimes wait 10 or more years for a telephone, it is galling beyond words to read that ex-ministers and ex-judges may get a 100 per cent increase in free calls (The Jerusalem Post, December 14th).

There are already many people who get similar benefits. Some time ago it was suggested that ministers be granted a second telephone in their homes. Who pays for all this? Kiryat Ono. RACHEL RASBASH

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To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I note the recent news item in your November 10 issue concerning overbookings in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv hotels.

As the director of business and public relations for the Safad Community Building and Development Foundation, I am more than happy to inform your readership in Israel and abroad that the 17 hotels in

Safad have much less than full occupancy during this season and welcome tourists now. Tourism to Safad at this time would be both interesting to the tourist and a boon to our economy.

Our foundation organizes professional expeditions through Safad's old Jewish Quarter, given 48 hours notice. RAFAEL R. WESTON

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